

TENT COOPERATION TRE Y

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION

(PCT Rule 61.2)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark
Office
Box PCT
Washington, D.C.20231
ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE

in its capacity as elected Office

Date of mailing: 05 October 2000 (05.10.00)	
International application No.: PCT/US99/15897	Applicant's or agent's file reference: 20568-63634
International filing date: 14 July 1999 (14.07.99)	Priority date: 25 March 1999 (25.03.99)
Applicant: OREN, Yair et al	

1. The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:

☒ in the demand filed with the International preliminary Examining Authority on:
27 June 2000 (27.06.00)

☐ in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:

2. The election ☒ was

☐ was not

made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

<p>The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland</p> <p>Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35</p>	<p>Authorized officer:</p> <p>J. Zahra</p> <p>Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38</p>
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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To: RICHARD D. CONARD
BARNES & THORNBURG
11 SOUTH MERIDIAN STREET
INDIANAPOLIS IN 46204

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF
THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
OR THE DECLARATION

(PCT Rule 44.1)

PTO/PFT Rec'd 89 AUG 2001

OCT 26 1999

BARNES & THORNBURG

Date of Mailing
(day/month/year)

22 OCT 1999

Applicant's or agent's file reference

2668-63634

FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraphs 1 and 4 below

International application No.

PCT/US99/15897

International filing date
(day/month/year)

14 JULY 1999

Applicant

CHROMATIS NETWORKS, INC.

1. ☒ The applicant is hereby notified that the international search report has been established and is transmitted herewith.

Filing of amendments and statement under Article 19:

The applicant is entitled, if he so wishes, to amend the claims of the international application (see Rule 46):

When? The time limit for filing such amendments is normally 2 months from the date of transmittal of the international search report; however, for more details, see the notes on the accompanying sheet.

Where? Directly to the International Bureau of WIPO
34, chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland
Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35

For more detailed instructions, see the notes on the accompanying sheet.

2. ☐ The applicant is hereby notified that no international search report will be established and that the declaration under Article 17(2)(a) to that effect is transmitted herewith.

3. ☐ With regard to the protest against payment of (an) additional fee(s) under Rule 40.2, the applicant is notified that:

☐ the protest together with the decision thereon has been transmitted to the International Bureau together with the applicant's request to forward the texts of both the protest and the decision thereon to the designated Offices.

☐ no decision has been made yet on the protest; the applicant will be notified as soon as a decision is made.

4. Further action(s): The applicant is reminded of the following:

Shortly after 18 months from the priority date, the international application will be published by the International Bureau. If the applicant wishes to avoid or postpone publication, a notice of withdrawal of the international application, or of the priority claim, must reach the International Bureau as provided in rules 90 bis 1 and 90 bis 3, respectively, before the completion of the technical preparations for international publication.

Within 19 months from the priority date, a demand for international preliminary examination must be filed if the applicant wishes to postpone the entry into the national phase until 30 months from the priority date (in some Offices even later).

Within 20 months from the priority date, the applicant must perform the prescribed acts for entry into the national phase before all designated Offices which have not been elected in the demand or in a later election within 19 months from the priority date or could not be elected because they are not bound by Chapter II.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Box PCT
Washington, D.C. 20231

Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230

Authorized officer

NADEEM IQBAL

Telephone No. (703) 308-5228

DOCKETED
FOR
BY
SEARCH
2000/09/14
10/14/99

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 20568-63634	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/US99/15897	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 14 JULY 1999	(Earliest) Priority Date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 25 MARCH 1999
Applicant CHROMATIS NETWORKS, INC.		

This international search report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This international search report consists of a total of 3 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. ☐ Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box I).
2. ☐ Unity of invention is lacking (See Box II).
3. ☐ The international application contains disclosure of a nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing and the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing

☐ filed with the international application.
☐ furnished by the applicant separately from the international application,
 ☐ but not accompanied by a statement to the effect that it did not include matter going beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed.
☐ transcribed by this Authority.
4. With regard to the title, ☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.
☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:
5. With regard to the abstract,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.
☐ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.
6. The figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is:
 Figure No. 7

☒ as suggested by the applicant.
☐ because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.
☐ because this figure better characterizes the invention.

☐ None of the figures.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US99/15897

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(6) : G06F 11/00, H04J 14/00

US CL : 714/4, 385/24

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 714/4, 6, 19, 20, 25, 49; 385/24; 359/119, 127, 117, 121, 166, 118, 136; 370/216, 351, 249, 237, 222;

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

APS, STN

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5,647,035 A (CADEDDU ET AL) 08 July 1997, col. 2, lines 33-67, col. 3, lines 1-67, col. 4, lines 1-34)	1-20
Y	US 5,687,013 A (HENMI ET AL) 11 November 1997, col. 2, lines 42-67, col. 3, lines 1-67, col. 4, lines 1-67)	1-20
A	US 5,528,582 A (BODEEP ET AL) 18 June 1996, entire document	1-20
A	US 5,854,700 A (OTA) 29 December 1998, entire document.	1-20
A	US 5,825,517 A (ANTONIADES ET AL) 20 October 1998, entire document.	1-20

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	*T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	*X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
E earlier document published on or after the international filing date	*Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
L document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	*Z* document member of the same patent family
O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	
P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search

08 SEPTEMBER 1999

Date of mailing of the international search report

22 OCT 1999

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Box PCT
Washington, D.C. 20231

Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230

Authorized officer

NADEEM IQBAL

Telephone No. (703) 308-5228

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US99/15897

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5,790,288 A (JAGER ET AL) 04 August 1998, entire document.	1-20

PCT

REQUEST
PTO/PCT Rec'd 29 AUG 2001

The undersigned requests that the present international application be processed according to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.

For _____ ing Office use only _____

International Application No.

International Filing Date

Name of receiving Office and "PCT International Application"

Applicant's or agent's file reference
(if desired) (12 characters maximum)

20568-63634

Box No. I TITLE OF INVENTION

FAULT PROTECTION IN NETWORKS

Box No. II APPLICANT

Name and address: (Family name followed by given name: for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)

CHROMATIS NETWORKS, INC.
Three Bethesda Metro Center, Suite 700
Bethesda, MD 20814
US

☐ This person is also inventor.

Telephone No.

(301) 664-8499

Facsimile No.

(301) 657-9776

Teleprinter No.

State (that is, country) of nationality:

US

State (that is, country) of residence:

US

This person is applicant
for the purposes of:☐ all designated
States☒ all designated States except
the United States of America☐ the United States
of America only☐ the States indicated in
the Supplemental Box

Box No. III FURTHER APPLICANT(S) AND/OR (FURTHER) INVENTOR(S)

Name and address: (Family name followed by given name: for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)

OREN, Yair
13 Dissenchik Street
Tel-Aviv
IL 69353

This person is:

☐ applicant only☒ applicant and inventor☐ inventor only (If this check-box
is marked, do not fill in below.)

State (that is, country) of nationality:

IL

State (that is, country) of residence:

IL

This person is applicant
for the purposes of:☐ all designated
States☐ all designated States except
the United States of America☒ the United States
of America only☐ the States indicated in
the Supplemental Box☒ Further applicants and or (further) inventors are indicated on a continuation sheet.

Box No. IV AGENT OR COMMON REPRESENTATIVE: OR ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE

The person identified below is hereby/has been appointed to act on behalf of the applicant(s) before the competent International Authorities as:

☒ agent☐ common representative

Name and address: (Family name followed by given name: for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country.)

CONARD, Richard D.
BARNES & THORNBURG
11 South Meridian Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204
US

Telephone No.

(317) 236-1313

Facsimile No.

(317) 231-7433

Teleprinter No.

☐ Address for correspondence: Mark this check-box where no agent or common representative is/has been appointed and the space above is used instead to indicate a special address to which correspondence should be sent.

Continuation of Box No. III FURTHER APPLICANT(S) AND/OR (FURTHER) INVENTOR(S)

If none of the following sub-boxes is used, this sheet should not be included in the request.

Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)

SHUSSMAN, Yossi
15 Rotchild Street
Kfar Saba
IL 44449

This person is:

- ☐ applicant only
☒ applicant and inventor
☐ inventor only (If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)

State (that is, country) of nationality:

IL

State (that is, country) of residence:

IL

This person is applicant for the purposes of:

- ☐ all designated States ☐ all designated States except the United States of America ☒ the United States of America only ☐ the States indicated in the Supplemental Box

Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)

This person is:

- ☐ applicant only
☐ applicant and inventor
☐ inventor only (If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)

State (that is, country) of nationality:

State (that is, country) of residence:

This person is applicant for the purposes of:

- ☐ all designated States ☐ all designated States except the United States of America ☐ the United States of America only ☐ the States indicated in the Supplemental Box

Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)

This person is:

- ☐ applicant only
☐ applicant and inventor
☐ inventor only (If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)

State (that is, country) of nationality:

State (that is, country) of residence:

This person is applicant for the purposes of:

- ☐ all designated States ☐ all designated States except the United States of America ☐ the United States of America only ☐ the States indicated in the Supplemental Box

Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)

This person is:

- ☐ applicant only
☐ applicant and inventor
☐ inventor only (If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)

State (that is, country) of nationality:

State (that is, country) of residence:

This person is applicant for the purposes of:

- ☐ all designated States ☐ all designated States except the United States of America ☐ the United States of America only ☐ the States indicated in the Supplemental Box

☐ Further applicants and or (further) inventors are indicated on another continuation sheet.

Box No. V DESIGNATION OF STATES

The following designations are hereby made under Rule 4.9(a) (mark the applicable check-boxes; at least one must be marked):

Regional Patent

- ☐ AP ARIPO Patent: GH Ghana, GM Gambia, KE Kenya, LS Lesotho, MW Malawi, SD Sudan, SZ Swaziland, UG Uganda, ZW Zimbabwe, and any other State which is a Contracting State of the Harare Protocol and of the PCT
- ☐ EA Eurasian Patent: AM Armenia, AZ Azerbaijan, BY Belarus, KG Kyrgyzstan, KZ Kazakhstan, MD Republic of Moldova, RU Russian Federation, TJ Tajikistan, TM Turkmenistan, and any other State which is a Contracting State of the Eurasian Patent Convention and of the PCT
- ☒ EP European Patent: AT Austria, BE Belgium, CH and LI Switzerland and Liechtenstein, CY Cyprus, DE Germany, DK Denmark, ES Spain, FI Finland, FR France, GB United Kingdom, GR Greece, IE Ireland, IT Italy, LU Luxembourg, MC Monaco, NL Netherlands, PT Portugal, SE Sweden, and any other State which is a Contracting State of the European Patent Convention and of the PCT
- ☐ OA OAPI Patent: BF Burkina Faso, BJ Benin, CF Central African Republic, CG Congo, CI Côte d'Ivoire, CM Cameroon, GA Gabon, GN Guinea, GW Guinea-Bissau, ML Mali, MR Mauritania, NE Niger, SN Senegal, TD Chad, TG Togo, and any other State which is a member State of OAPI and a Contracting State of the PCT (if other kind of protection or treatment desired, specify on dotted line)

National Patent (if other kind of protection or treatment desired, specify on dotted line):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> AL Albania | <input type="checkbox"/> LS Lesotho |
| <input type="checkbox"/> AM Armenia | <input type="checkbox"/> LT Lithuania |
| <input type="checkbox"/> AT Austria | <input type="checkbox"/> LU Luxembourg |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AU Australia | <input type="checkbox"/> LV Latvia |
| <input type="checkbox"/> AZ Azerbaijan | <input type="checkbox"/> MD Republic of Moldova |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BA Bosnia and Herzegovina | <input type="checkbox"/> MG Madagascar |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BB Barbados | <input type="checkbox"/> MK The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BG Bulgaria | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BR Brazil | <input type="checkbox"/> MN Mongolia |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BY Belarus | <input type="checkbox"/> MW Malawi |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CA Canada | <input type="checkbox"/> MX Mexico |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CH and LI Switzerland and Liechtenstein | <input type="checkbox"/> NO Norway |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CN China | <input type="checkbox"/> NZ New Zealand |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CU Cuba | <input type="checkbox"/> PL Poland |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CZ Czech Republic | <input type="checkbox"/> PT Portugal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DE Germany | <input type="checkbox"/> RO Romania |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DK Denmark | <input type="checkbox"/> RU Russian Federation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EE Estonia | <input type="checkbox"/> SD Sudan |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ES Spain | <input type="checkbox"/> SE Sweden |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FI Finland | <input type="checkbox"/> SG Singapore |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GB United Kingdom | <input type="checkbox"/> SI Slovenia |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GD Grenada | <input type="checkbox"/> SK Slovakia |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GE Georgia | <input type="checkbox"/> SL Sierra Leone |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GH Ghana | <input type="checkbox"/> TJ Tajikistan |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GM Gambia | <input type="checkbox"/> TM Turkmenistan |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HR Croatia | <input type="checkbox"/> TR Turkey |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HU Hungary | <input type="checkbox"/> TT Trinidad and Tobago |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ID Indonesia | <input type="checkbox"/> UA Ukraine |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IL Israel | <input type="checkbox"/> UG Uganda |
| <input type="checkbox"/> IN India | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> US United States of America |
| <input type="checkbox"/> IS Iceland | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> JP Japan | <input type="checkbox"/> UZ Uzbekistan |
| <input type="checkbox"/> KE Kenya | <input type="checkbox"/> VN Viet Nam |
| <input type="checkbox"/> KG Kyrgyzstan | <input type="checkbox"/> YU Yugoslavia |
| <input type="checkbox"/> KP Democratic People's Republic of Korea | <input type="checkbox"/> ZW Zimbabwe |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> KR Republic of Korea | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> KZ Kazakhstan | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LC Saint Lucia | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LK Sri Lanka | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LR Liberia | |

Check-boxes reserved for designating States (for the purposes of a national patent) which have become party to the PCT after issuance of this sheet:

- ☐ AE United Arab Emirates
- ☐ ZA South Africa
- ☐

Precautionary Designation Statement: In addition to the designations made above, the applicant also makes under Rule 4.9(b) all other designations which would be permitted under the PCT except any designation(s) indicated in the Supplemental Box as being excluded from the scope of this statement. The applicant declares that those additional designations are subject to confirmation and that any designation which is not confirmed before the expiration of 15 months from the priority date is to be regarded as withdrawn by the applicant at the expiration of that time limit. (Confirmation of a designation consists of the filing of a notice specifying that designation and the payment of the designation and confirmation fees. Confirmation must reach the receiving Office within the 15-month time limit.)

Box No. VI PRIORITY CLAIM		<input type="checkbox"/> Further priority claims are indicated in the Supplemental Box.		
Filing date of earlier application (day/month/year)	Number of earlier application	Where earlier application is:		
		national application: country	regional application:* regional Office	international application: receiving Office
item (1) (24.03.99) 25 March 1999	60/126,118	US		
item (2)				
item (3)				

 The receiving Office is requested to prepare and transmit to the International Bureau a certified copy of the earlier application(s) *(only if the earlier application was filed with the Office which for the purposes of the present international application is the receiving Office)* identified above as item(s): (1)

* Where the earlier application is an ARIPO application, it is mandatory to indicate in the Supplemental Box at least one country party to the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property for which that earlier application was filed (Rule 4.10(b)(ii)). See Supplemental Box.

Box No. VII INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

Choice of International Searching Authority (ISA)
(if two or more International Searching Authorities are competent to carry out the international search, indicate the Authority chosen; the two-letter code may be used):

Request to use results of earlier search; reference to that search (if an earlier search has been carried out by or requested from the International Searching Authority):

Date (day/month/year)

Number

Country (or regional Office)

ISA / US

Box No. VIII CHECK LIST: LANGUAGE OF FILING

This international application contains
the following number of sheets:

request	:	4
description (excluding sequence listing part)	:	27
claims	:	6
abstract	:	1
drawings	:	11
sequence listing part of description	:	0

Total number of sheets : 49

This international application is accompanied by the item(s) marked below:

1. ☒ fee calculation sheet
2. ☒ separate signed power of attorney (1)
3. ☒ copy of general power of attorney; reference number, if any: (2)
4. ☐ statement explaining lack of signature
5. ☐ priority document(s) identified in Box No. VI as item(s):
6. ☐ translation of international application into (language):
7. ☐ separate indications concerning deposited microorganism or other biological material
8. ☐ nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing in computer readable form
9. ☒ other (specify): **Transmittal Letter to the RO/US**

Transmittal Letter to the RO/US
Return Postal Card

Figure of the drawings which should accompany the abstract:

Language of filing of the international application: **English**

Box No. IX SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT OR AGENT

Next to each signature, indicate the name of the person signing and the capacity in which the person signs (if such capacity is not obvious from reading the request).

Richard D. Ward

Richard D. Conard, Agent for Applicants

1. Date of actual receipt of the purported international application:		2. Drawings: <input type="checkbox"/> received: <input type="checkbox"/> not received:
3. Corrected date of actual receipt due to later but timely received papers or drawings completing the purported international application:		
4. Date of timely receipt of the required corrections under PCT Article 11(2):		
5. International Searching Authority (if two or more are competent): ISA /	6. <input type="checkbox"/> Transmittal of search copy delayed until search fee is paid.	

For International Bureau use only

Date of receipt of the record copy
by the International Bureau:

PCT

GENERAL POWER OF ATTORNEY

(for several international applications filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 90.5)

The undersigned person(s) :

(Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country.)

CHROMATIS NETWORKS, INC.
Three Bethesda Metro Center, Suite 700
Bethesda, MD 20814
US

hereby appoint(s) the following person as:

☒ agent

☐ common representative

Name and address

(Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country.)

CONARD, Richard D.; COFFEY, William R.; HYLAND, Jerry E.; LAMMERT, Steven R.; REZEK, Richard A.;
NIEDNAGEL, Timothy E.; BREEN, John P.; WOODBURN, Jill L.; HARRISON, Nancy, J.; CARTER, R. Trevor;
KULKARNI, Dilip A.; QUICK, David B.; POWLICK, Jill T.; PALAN, Perry; NEWMAN, Mark M.;
GILLENWATER, Bobby B.; HUNT, Paul B.; GZYBOWSKI, Michael S.; GALLAGHER, Gerald T.; NULL,
Robert D.; MARTIN, Alice O.; All Appointed Agents of the Address:

BARNES & THORNBURG
11 South Meridian Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204
US

to represent the undersigned before

☒ all the competent International Authorities

☐ the International Searching Authority only

☐ the International Preliminary Examining Authority only

in connection with any and all international applications filed by the undersigned with the following Office

US

as receiving Office

and to make or receive payments on behalf of the undersigned.

Signature(s) (where there are several persons, each of them must sign; next to each signature, indicate the name of the person signing and the capacity in which the person signs, if such capacity is not obvious from reading this power):

Signature of Officer

Typed or Printed Name : Rafi Gidron

Title: President

Date: 11 02 1999
Day/ Month/ Year

PCT

GENERAL POWER OF ATTORNEY

(for several international applications filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 90.5)

The undersigned person(s) :

(Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country.)

OREN, Yair
13 Dissenchik Street
Tel-Aviv
IL 69353

hereby appoint(s) the following person as:

☒ agent

☐ common representative

Name and address

(Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country.)

CONARD, Richard D.; COFFEY, William R.; HYLAND, Jerry E.; LAMMERT, Steven R.; REZEK, Richard A.;
NIEDNAGEL, Timothy E.; BREEN, John P.; WOODBURN, Jill L.; HARRISON, Nancy, J.; CARTER, R. Trevor;
KULKARNI, Dilip A.; QUICK, David B.; POWLICK, Jill T.; PALAN, Perry; NEWMAN, Mark M.;
GILLENWATER, Bobby B.; HUNT, Paul B.; GZYBOWSKI, Michael S.; GALLAGHER, Gerald T.; NULL,
Robert D.; MARTIN, Alice O.; All Appointed Agents of the Address:

BARNES & THORNBURG
11 South Meridian Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204
US

to represent the undersigned before

☒ all the competent International Authorities

☐ the International Searching Authority only

☐ the International Preliminary Examining Authority only

in connection with any and all international applications filed by the undersigned with the following Office

US

as receiving Office

and to make or receive payments on behalf of the undersigned.

Signature(s) (where there are several persons, each of them must sign; next to each signature, indicate the name of the person signing and the capacity in which the person signs; if such capacity is not obvious from reading this power):

Yair OREN

Date: 7 2 1999
Day/ Month/ Year

PCT

GENERAL POWER OF ATTORNEY

(for several international applications filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 90.5)

The undersigned person(s) :

(Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country.)

SHUSSMAN, Yossi
15 Rotchild Street
Kfar Saba
IL 44449

hereby appoint(s) the following person as:

☒ agent

☐ common representative

Name and address

(Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country.)

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PTO/PCT Rec'd 29 AUG 2001

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Rule 71.1)

Date of Mailing
(day/month/year)

23 MAR 2001

Applicant's or agent's file reference

20568-63634

~~IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION~~

International application No.

PCT/US99/15897

International filing date (day/month/year)

14 JULY 1999

Priority Date (day/month/year)

25 MARCH 1999

Applicant

CHROMATIS NETWORKS, INC.

1. The applicant is hereby notified that this International Preliminary Examining Authority transmits herewith the international preliminary examination report and its annexes, if any, established on the international application.
2. A copy of the report and its annexes, if any, is being transmitted to the International Bureau for communication to all the elected Offices.
3. Where required by any of the elected Offices, the International Bureau will prepare an English translation of the report (but not of any annexes) and will transmit such translation to those Offices.
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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 20568-63634	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/US99/15897	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 14 JULY 1999	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 25 MARCH 1999
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC IPC(7): G06F 11/00, H04J 14/00 and US Cl.: 714/4, 385/24		
Applicant CHROMATIS NETWORKS, INC.		

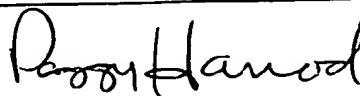
1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets.

☐ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority. (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of 0 sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of report with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 27 JUNE 2000	Date of completion of this report 05 JANUARY 2001
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/US Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Box PCT Washington, D.C. 20231 Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230	Authorized officer NADEEM IQBAL  Telephone No. (703) 308-5228

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US99/15897

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

☒ the international application as originally filed

☒ the description:

pages 1-27, as originally filed

pages NONE, filed with the demand

pages NONE, filed with the letter of

☒ the claims:

pages 28-33, as originally filed

pages NONE, as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19

pages NONE, filed with the demand

pages NONE, filed with the letter of

☒ the drawings:

pages 1-11, as originally filed

pages NONE, filed with the demand

pages NONE, filed with the letter of

☒ the sequence listing part of the description:

pages NONE, as originally filed

pages NONE, filed with the demand

pages NONE, filed with the letter of

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language which is:

☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).

☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).

☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

☐ contained in the international application in printed form.

☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.

☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.

☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. ☒ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

☒ the description, pages NONE

☒ the claims, Nos. none

☒ the drawings, sheets/fig NONE

5. ☐ This report has been drawn as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17).

**Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US99/15897

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. statement

Novelty (N)

Claims	<u>1-22</u>	YES
Claims	<u>NONE</u>	NO

Inventive Step (IS)

Claims	<u>2-6,9-22</u>	YES
Claims	<u>1,7,8</u>	NO

Industrial Applicability (IA)

Claims	<u>1-22</u>	YES
Claims	<u>NONE</u>	NO

2. citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

Claims 1,7,8 lacks an inventive step under PCT Article 33(3) as being obvious over Cadeddu et al., (U.S. Patent # 5647035). As per claim 1, cadeddu et al., teaches (col. 2, lines 32-35) a ring network communication structure comprising a plurality of nodes connected to each other in pairs by means of respective connections susceptible to failure. A first and second optical carrier utilizing a first wavelength on the first optical carrier, a second wavelength on the second optical carrier. He thus teaches limitations pertains to at least two optical carriers and information modulated on them. He also teaches (col. 2, lines 58-67) a first and second demultiplexing means operating at a first wavelength respective to first carrier and second wavelength associated with the second carrier. Thus teaching limitations pertains to demultiplexing means demultiplexing the first and the second carriers. He also teaches first and second multiplexing means operating on the first and the second carriers. He does not explicitly disclose a first receiver for demodulating first information and a first transmitter for modulating first information on the first carrier before the first carrier is placed on the fiber and a second receiver for demodulating second information and a second transmitter for modulating second information on the second carrier. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to realize that Cadeddu et al., would also perform the stated demodulation of the first information and a first transmitter for modulating first information on the first carrier before the first carrier is placed on the fiber and a second receiver for demodulating second information and a second transmitter for modulating second information on the second carrier. This is because he teaches as stated above first and second multiplexing means operating on the first and the second carriers thus would modulate first information and also teaches a first and second demultiplexing means operating on to first carrier and second wavelength associated with the second carrier, thus would perform the claimed demodulating second information.

Claims 2-6, 9-22 meets the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(2)-(4), because the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest first
(Continued on Supplemental Sheet.)

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US99/15897

Supplemental Box

(To be used when the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient)

Continuation of: Boxes I - VIII

Sheet 10

V. 2. REASONED STATEMENTS - CITATIONS AND EXPLANATIONS (Continued):

state of each of the first and the second switches coupling the respective first and second switch's first input port to its first output port and its second input port to its second output port and the second receiver coupled to the second input port of the second switch.

As per claims 7 & 8, He does not explicitly disclose a third optical carrier coupled through at least one of the first and second demultiplexers and through at least one of the first and second multiplexers. A person of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to couple the third carrier as claimed, since Cadeddu et al., already teaches the coupling of the first and the second carriers and further teaches switching means to selectively reconfigure between regular operation configuration (col. 3, lines 1-10), thus provides motivation to couple a third carrier as claimed.

----- NEW CITATIONS -----

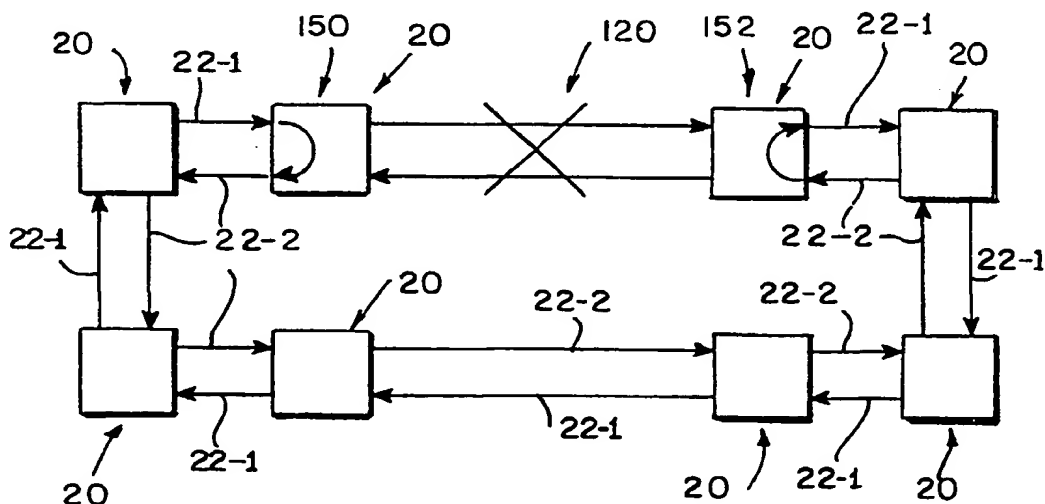
NONE



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US99/15897 (22) International Filing Date: 14 July 1999 (14.07.99) (30) Priority Data: 60/126,118 25 March 1999 (25.03.99) US (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): CHROMATIS NETWORKS, INC. [US/US]; Suite 806, Three Bethesda Metro Center, Bethesda, MD 20814 (US). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): OREN, Yair [IL/IL]; Dissenchik Street 13, 69353 Tel Aviv (IL). SHUSSMAN, Yossi [IL/IL]; Rotchild Street 15, 44449 Kfar Saba (IL). (74) Agent: CONARD, Richard, D.; Barnes & Thornburg, 11 South Meridian Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204 (US).		(81) Designated States: AU, IL, JP, KR, US, European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE). Published <i>With international search report.</i>

(54) Title: FAULT PROTECTION IN NETWORKS



(57) Abstract

A network (21, 21') is maintained functional in the presence of a wide range of faults (120), including physical fiber cuts, transmission impairments creating signal quality degradation, and failure of equipment modules (20), for example, transceivers, using a common control and backup channel (36), either alone or in combination with fiber loopback protection (22-1, 22-2) or wavelength loopback protection (LC), or fiber loopback protection (21-1, 22-2) or wavelength loopback protection (LC) alone. Systems constructed according to the invention require only a single transceiver (34) per wavelength at each node (20) that accesses that wavelength. The invention is equally applicable to type 1 nodes (24), which drop and add a single, predetermined wavelength, and to type 2 nodes (28) which have the capability to drop and add any subset of the wavelengths employed in the network (21, 21').

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FAULT PROTECTION IN NETWORKS

Field of the Invention

5 The present invention relates to methods and devices for providing fault protection in networks. It is disclosed in the context of fiber optic communication networks, but is believed to be useful in other applications as well.

Disclosure of the Invention

10 According to one aspect of the invention, a combination includes a closed loop optical fiber for carrying information modulated on at least two optical carriers, a first one of the carriers having a first wavelength and a second one of the carriers having a second wavelength, and at least two nodes at a first one of which first information modulated on the first carrier and second information modulated on the second carrier is to be recovered and transmitted. The first node comprises a first
15 demultiplexer for demultiplexing the first carrier from the fiber, a second demultiplexer for demultiplexing the second carrier from the fiber, a first multiplexer for multiplexing the first carrier on the fiber, a second multiplexer for multiplexing the second carrier on the fiber, and apparatus for receiving and transmitting first and second information. The apparatus for receiving and transmitting first and second information consists
20 essentially of a first receiver for demodulating first information and a first transmitter for modulating first information on the first carrier before the first carrier is placed on the fiber by the first multiplexer, a second receiver for demodulating second information and a second transmitter for modulating second information on the second carrier before the second carrier is placed on the fiber by the second multiplexer.

25 Illustratively according to this aspect of the invention, the combination further comprises first and second switches. Each of the first and second switches has first and second input ports and first and second output ports. Each of the first and second switches has first and second states. The first state of each of the first and second switches couples the respective switch's first input port to its first output port and its second input port to its second output port. The second state of each of the
30 first and second switches couples the respective switch's first input port to its second output port and its second input port to its first output port. The first receiver is

coupled to the first input port of the first switch. The second receiver is coupled to the second input port of the first switch. The second output port of the first switch is coupled to the second input port of the second switch. The first output port of the second switch is coupled to the first transmitter. The second output port of the second switch is coupled to the second transmitter. The node controls the first and second switches so that when the first carrier is not capable of transmitting first information over the fiber, the first information is modulated on the second carrier for transmission over the fiber.

Additionally according to this aspect of the invention, the combination further comprises a third optical carrier having a third wavelength. The first demultiplexer also removes the third carrier from the fiber. The first multiplexer also places the third carrier on the fiber. The node includes apparatus for receiving and transmitting third information. The apparatus for receiving and transmitting third information consists essentially of a third receiver for demodulating third information from the third carrier and a third transmitter for modulating third information on the third carrier before the third carrier is placed on the fiber by the first multiplexer. The fiber couples the third carrier to the first demultiplexer and the first multiplexer couples the third carrier to the fiber.

Further illustratively according to this aspect of the invention, each of the first and second switches has first, second and third input ports and first, second and third output ports. Each of the first and second switches has first, second, third and fourth states. The first state of each of the first and second switches couples its first input port to its first output port, its second input port to its second output port, and its third input port to its third output port. The second state of each of the first and second switches couples its first input port to its second output port, its second input port to its first output port and its third input port to its third output port. The third state of each of the first and second switches couples its first input port to its first output port, its second input port to its third output port, and its third input port to its second output port. The fourth state of each of the first and second switches couples its first input port to its third output port, its third input port to its first output port, and its second input port to its second output port. The first receiver is coupled to the first input port of the first switch. The second receiver is coupled to the second input

port of the first switch. The third receiver is coupled to the third input port of the first switch. The third output port of the first switch is coupled to the third input port of the second switch. The node controls the first and second switches so that when one of the first and third carriers is not capable of transmitting a respective one of first and third information over the fiber, the respective one of first and third information is modulated on the second carrier for transmission over the fiber.

Illustratively according to this aspect of the invention, the combination further comprises a fourth optical carrier having a fourth wavelength. The fiber couples the fourth optical carrier through at least one of the first and second demultiplexers and through at least one of the first and second multiplexers so that the fourth optical carrier passes through the first node unaffected.

Further illustratively according to this aspect of the invention, the fiber couples the fourth optical carrier through the first and second demultiplexers and through the first and second multiplexers.

According to another aspect of the invention, a combination comprises first and second loops of optical fiber for carrying information modulated on a first optical carrier having a first wavelength, and at least two nodes at a first one of which first information modulated on the first carrier is to be received and transmitted. The first node comprises a first demultiplexer for demultiplexing the first carrier from the first fiber, a first multiplexer for multiplexing the first carrier on the first fiber, and apparatus coupled to the first demultiplexer for receiving, and to the first multiplexer for transmitting, first information. The combination further comprises first and second switches, each having first and second input ports and first and second output ports. Each of the first and second switches has first and second states. The first state of each of the first and second switches couples the respective switch's first input port to its first output port and its second input port to its second output port. The second state of each of the first and second switches couples the respective switch's first input port to its second output port and its second input port to its first output port. The first optical fiber is coupled to the first input port of the first switch and to the first output port of the second switch. The second optical fiber is coupled to the second input port of the first switch and to the second output port of the second switch. The first output port of the first switch is coupled to the first demultiplexer. The first

multiplexer is coupled to the first input port of the second switch. The second output port of the first switch is coupled to the second input port of the second switch.

Illustratively according to this aspect of the invention, the combination further comprises a second optical carrier. Second information is modulated on the
5 second carrier. The second carrier is transmitted along the first optical fiber in the first direction.

Further illustratively according to this aspect of the invention, the first demultiplexer demultiplexes the second carrier from the first fiber, the first multiplexer multiplexes the second carrier on the first fiber. The combination further comprises
10 apparatus coupled to the first demultiplexer for receiving, and to the first multiplexer for transmitting, second information.

Additionally illustratively according to this aspect of the invention, the combination further comprises a third optical carrier transmitted along the second optical fiber in a second direction opposite to the first direction. The third carrier has a
15 third wavelength.

Illustratively according to this aspect of the invention, the first node controls the first and second switches so that when one of the first and second optical carriers is incapable of being transmitted along its respective fiber in its respective direction, one of the first and second switches is switched from its first state to its
20 second state so that the respective optical carrier is transmitted in the opposite direction on the other of the first and second fibers.

According to another aspect of the invention, first and second closed loop optical fibers are provided for carrying information modulated on a first optical carrier having a first wavelength. At least two nodes are provided. At a first one of
25 the nodes first information modulated on the first carrier is to be received and transmitted. The first node comprises a first demultiplexer for demultiplexing the first carrier from the first fiber, a first multiplexer for multiplexing the first carrier on the first fiber, a second demultiplexer for demultiplexing the first carrier from the second fiber, a second multiplexer for multiplexing the first carrier on the second fiber, first
30 apparatus coupled to the first demultiplexer for receiving, and to the first multiplexer for transmitting, first information, and first and second switches. Each of the first and second switches has first and second input ports and first and second output ports.

Each of the first and second switches has first and second states. The first state of each of the first and second switches couples the respective switch's first input port to its first output port and its second input port to its second output port. The second state of each of the first and second switches couples the respective switch's first input port to its second output port and its second input port to its first output port. The first optical fiber is coupled to the first demultiplexer. The first demultiplexer is coupled to the first input port of the first switch. The second demultiplexer is coupled to the second input port of the first switch. The first output port of the first switch is coupled to the first receiving apparatus. The first transmitting apparatus is coupled to the first input port of the second switch. The second output port of the first switch is coupled to the second input port of the second switch. The first output port of the second switch is coupled to the first multiplexer. The second output port of the second switch is coupled to the second multiplexer.

Illustratively according to this aspect of the invention, the first node controls the first and second switches so that when the first optical carrier is incapable of being transmitted along the first fiber in the first direction, one of the first and second switches is switched from its first state to its second state so that the first optical carrier is transmitted in the second direction on the second fiber.

Further illustratively according to this aspect of the invention, a second optical carrier is transmitted along the first optical fiber in the first direction. Second information is modulated on the second carrier.

Additionally illustratively according to this aspect of the invention, the first and second demultiplexers are each capable of demultiplexing the first carrier and the second carrier. Second apparatus is provided for receiving and transmitting the second carrier. The second apparatus is coupled to the first and second demultiplexers for receiving, and to the first and second multiplexers for transmitting, the second information.

Illustratively according to this aspect of the invention, third and fourth switches are provided. Each of the third and fourth switches has first and second input ports and first and second output ports. Each of the third and fourth switches has first and second states. The first state of each of the third and fourth switches couples the respective switch's first input port to its first output port and its second input port to

its second output port. The second state of each of the third and fourth switches couples the respective switch's first input port to its second output port and its second input port to its first output port. The first optical fiber is coupled to the first demultiplexer. The first demultiplexer is coupled to the first input port of the third switch. The second demultiplexer is coupled to the second input port of the third switch. The first output port of the third switch coupled to the second receiving apparatus. The second transmitting apparatus is coupled to the first input port of the fourth switch. The second output port of the third switch is coupled to the second input port of the fourth switch. The first output port of the fourth switch is coupled to the first multiplexer. The second output port of the fourth switch coupled to the second multiplexer.

Further illustratively according to this aspect of the invention, the first node controls the third and fourth switches so that when the second optical carrier is incapable of being transmitted along the first fiber in the first direction, one of the third and fourth switches is switched from its first state to its second state so that the second optical carrier is transmitted in the second direction on the second fiber.

Additionally illustratively according to this aspect of the invention, a third optical carrier is transmitted along the second optical fiber in a second direction opposite to the first direction. The third carrier has a third wavelength.

20

Brief Description of the Drawings

The invention may best be understood by referring to the following detailed descriptions of illustrative embodiments, and the accompanying drawings which illustrate the invention. In the drawings:

Fig. 1 illustrates a highly simplified block diagram of a network capable of incorporating the present invention;

Fig. 2 illustrates a functional block diagram of a possible detail of the network illustrated in Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 illustrates a functional block diagram of a possible detail of the network illustrated in Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 illustrates a possible architecture of a detail of the system illustrated in Fig. 2;

Fig. 5 illustrates a possible architecture of a detail of the system illustrated in Fig. 3;

Fig. 6 illustrates a highly simplified block diagram of a network incorporating the present invention;

5 Fig. 7 illustrates a highly simplified block diagram of the network illustrated in Fig. 6 in a fault condition;

Fig. 8 illustrates a functional block diagram of a possible detail of the network illustrated in Fig. 1;

10 Figs. 9-10 illustrate two states of a detail of the systems illustrated in Figs. 4-8 and 11-17;

Fig. 11 illustrates a functional block diagram of a possible detail of the network illustrated in Figs. 6-7;

Fig. 12 illustrates a highly simplified block diagram of a network incorporating the present invention;

15 Fig. 13 illustrates a highly simplified block diagram of the network illustrated in Fig. 12 in a fault condition;

Fig. 14 illustrates a possible architecture of a detail of the system illustrated in Figs. 12-13;

20 Fig. 15 illustrates a possible architecture of a detail of the system illustrated in Figs. 12-13;

Fig. 16 illustrates a possible architecture of a detail of the system illustrated in Figs. 12-13; and,

Fig. 17 illustrates a possible architecture of a detail of the system illustrated in Figs. 12-13

25

Detailed Descriptions of Illustrative Embodiments

In order to understand the invention, it is helpful to outline certain characteristics of a typical system which incorporates the invention. Referring to Fig. 1, a set of an arbitrary number of nodes 20 is interconnected in a ring network 21 by a pair of optical fibers 22-1 and 22-2. The data carriers in the optical fiber ring 21 are
30 generated by an arbitrary number, N, of, for example, laser diodes, providing a respective arbitrary number of wavelengths $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$ in, for example, the 1550

nm and/or 1310 nm bands. These optical carrier sources provide the optical channels interconnecting the network 21 nodes 20, and these channels, or wavelengths $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots \lambda_N$, are carried in a single fiber 22-1, 22-2 using Dense Wavelength Division Multiplexing technology. Each such wavelength $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots \lambda_N$ is hereinafter generally
5 referred to as a DWDM channel.

It is not essential to an implementation of the invention that a particular bit rate or range of bit rates be employed, and so the bit rate of each DWDM channel $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots \lambda_N$ is arbitrary and independent of the rates of other channels $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots \lambda_N$. The protocol used by each DWDM channel $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots \lambda_N$ is arbitrary and
10 independent of the protocol(s) used by other channels $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots \lambda_N$. Examples of various protocols which may be implemented in various ones of the channels $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots \lambda_N$ carried on systems constructed according to the invention include SONET/SDH, ATM and IP. In the illustrated embodiments, all channels $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots \lambda_N$ are assumed to be using SONET/SDH framing. Channels $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots \lambda_N$ which use different
15 protocols, ATM and IP, for example, are simply mapped into the SONET/SDH frames using established standards and techniques.

With reference to Figs. 2-3, there are two types of nodes 20 in the DWDM network. Type 1 nodes 24 drop and add a single, predetermined wavelength λ_P by means of an optical demultiplexer/multiplexer pair, or Optical Add/Drop
20 Multiplexer, 26, hereinafter generally referred to as an OADM. Type 1 nodes 24 optionally effect appropriate protocol processing on the signals carried by their assigned wavelengths λ_P . Several type 1 nodes 24 may share the same wavelength λ_P . Type 2 nodes 28 have the capability to generate/terminate any subset $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots \lambda_M$ of the wavelengths $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots \lambda_N$ in the ring using a DWDM
25 multiplexer/demultiplexer 30. A type 2 node 28 can then optionally effect protocol processing on one or more subsets of the terminated wavelengths $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots \lambda_M$. Several nodes 24, 28 of both types can simultaneously access the same wavelength(s) $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots \lambda_N$.

In the embodiment illustrated in Fig. 1, it is understood that virtually
30 any combination of type 1 nodes and type 2 nodes is possible. The invention is intended to maintain the network 21 functional in the presence of a wide range of faults, including physical fiber cuts, transmission impairments creating signal quality

degradation, and failure of equipment modules, for example, transceivers 34, using a Common Control and Backup Channel 36 (hereinafter generally referred to as CCBC 36) aspect of the invention. A system constructed according to the invention requires only a single transceiver 34 per wavelength λ_P at each node 20 that accesses that wavelength λ_P . Prior art networks require multiple transceivers 34 per wavelength λ_P at each node 20. Thus, the invention substantially reduces the cost of the resulting systems.

A single, specific channel 36 is used as a backup channel for any failed DWDM channel $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots \lambda_N$. When, for example, a transceiver 34 for any of the DWDM channels $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots \lambda_N$ in any of the nodes 24, 28 fails, the backup channel 36 replaces the disabled channel. All nodes 24, 28 which access the wavelength λ_P of the failed channel replace the failed channel with the backup channel 36. The wavelength λ_C used by the CCBC 36 is arbitrary. Again, the possibilities include 1310 nm, 1510 nm, and any DWDM wavelength defined by the ITU grid. Network 21 control channel, used for management and fault reporting, is also carried by the same carrier λ_C . Therefore the CCBC 36 is added/dropped at every node 24, 28.

The method used to multiplex the control information and the payload data when the CCBC 36 is activated as a backup for a failed DWDM channel $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots \lambda_N$ depends on the protocol(s) being used in the network 21. One approach, applicable when the data channels in the network use SONET/SDH framing, is to have the control channel 36 use the DCC bytes in the section overhead of the SONET/SDH signal. Another approach, applicable to ATM channels, is to assign a specific ATM VC to the control flow.

A control subchannel 56 of the CCBC 36 is used to coordinate the activation of the backup channel λ_C to replace a DWDM channel $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots \lambda_N$ for which the transceiver 34 at one of its associated nodes 24, 28 has failed. The node 24, 28 at which failure is detected will notify all other relevant nodes 24, 28, and those nodes 24, 28 will switch from the failed channel to the backup channel λ_C . The exact format of the messages used within the control protocol to achieve this end is not central to this aspect of the invention. However, this kind of message format and message exchange is common in packet oriented control protocols. A significant

benefit of this approach is to reduce the number of transceivers 34 utilized at each node 24, 28.

Each node 24, 28 requires a transceiver 34 for each DWDM channel $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$ with which it is associated, plus a transceiver 34 for the CCBC 36.

5 Thus, an alternative approach to providing resiliency against the failure of a transceiver 34 would be to provide two transceivers 34 per associated wavelength $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$ in each node. This is especially significant in type 2 nodes, where the number of wavelengths $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M$ terminated at a node 28 can be large. Combining the backup function with the control function on the same channel λ_C further reduces the
10 number of transceivers 34 required by eliminating the additional transceiver 34 for the control channel. Using relatively inexpensive optical technology, such as 1310nm components, for the CCBC 36 provides an extremely cost-effective solution to this problem.

Fig. 2 illustrates a functional block diagram of a type 1 node 24
15 according to the present invention. A processing subsystem 40 applies the protocol processing appropriate to a particular network 21 application. Examples of processing subsystems 40 include SONET/SDH multiplexers and ATM multiplexers. It is also possible to have a "null" processing subsystem 40, for example, an opto-electrical transponder, which transmits the signal unaffected to the next node 24, 28. The
20 processing subsystem 40 provides an electrical signal to an optical subsystem 42 for transmission on an assigned DWDM channel $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$, or on the backup channel λ_C when the need arises. The optical subsystem 42 also has tributary ports which permit the connection of equipment using the transport services of the network 21 under consideration. The optical subsystem 42 implements the optical add/drop
25 function. This function permits the transmission of the electrical signal produced by the processing subsystem 40 on the DWDM channel λ_P associated with this node 24. It also enables the node 24 to participate in network 21-wide protection and backup activation events. A control subsystem 44 manages, configures and monitors the operation of the other subsystems 40, 42, and handles all communications on the
30 CCBC 36.

Fig. 3 illustrates a functional block diagram of a type 2 node 28 according to the present invention. A processing subsystem 46 provides protocol-

related processing functions, such as the cross-connect/switching function, and all protocol processing for all wavelengths $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M$ terminated at this node 28. In the case of a SONET/SDH application, the processing subsystem 46 can provide the functionality of a SONET/SDH cross-connect, as well as all SONET/SDH related protocol processing. In the case of an ATM application, the processing subsystem 46 can provide the functionality of an ATM VPX and the associated protocol processing. A "null" processing subsystem 46, that is, a set of electro-optical transponders for the optical channels $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M$ served by this node 28, may also be provided. The processing subsystem 46 provides to an optical subsystem 48 an electrical channel for each DWDM channel $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M$ terminated by this node 28. The optical subsystem 48 also has tributary ports which permit the connection of equipment using the transport services of the network 21.

Fig. 4 illustrates a possible architecture of an optical subsystem 42 for a type 1 node 24. The incoming fiber 22-1 or 22-2 carries a DWDM signal composed of various wavelengths $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$, one of which is the CCBC 36 wavelength λ_C and another of which is the specific wavelength λ_P associated with this type 1 terminal 24. Several other wavelengths $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N) - \lambda_C - \lambda_P$ may be present in the signal. All of such additional wavelengths $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N) - \lambda_C - \lambda_P$ will pass through the illustrated type 1 node 24 unaffected. The combined DWDM signal $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$ first goes through an optical drop component 50 for the wavelength λ_C used by the CCBC 36. This component 50 removes, or drops, the wavelength λ_C of the CCBC 36 from the composite DWDM signal $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$ and provides the thus separated CCBC wavelength λ_C to a CCBC receiver 52. The remaining wavelengths $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N) - \lambda_C$ pass through the optical drop component 50 unchanged. The exact nature of the CCBC optical drop component 50 depends on the wavelength λ_C used for that channel 36.

The CCBC receiver 52 converts the isolated CCBC optical signal λ_C into an electrical signal. The resulting electrical signal goes into a control subchannel demultiplex function 54 which separates the control component 56 in the CCBC 36 from any data component which will exist, for example, if the CCBC 36 is also currently functioning as a backup channel. The exact nature of the demultiplex function 54 depends on the structure of the signal, that is, whether the signal is, for

example, a SONET/SDH signal, or an ATM signal, or an IP signal. In case of a SONET/SDH signal (or a SONET/SDH framed signal), the information contained in the DCC bytes of the section overhead in the SONET/SDH frames must be isolated.

This can be accomplished by commercially available SONET/SDH framing

- 5 components such as, for example, the SPECTRA or SUNI devices from PMC-Sierra. If the control subchannel 56 is carried as a specific VC in an ATM cell flow or as a specifically addressed packet flow in an IP packet stream, suitable hardware can be devised to effect the required separation functionality. This functionality is found in ATM switching systems and IP routing systems, respectively.

- 10 The resulting isolated control flow is provided via a control channel 56 to control subsystem 44 (Fig. 2). The remaining isolated data stream (again, if the CCBC 36 is also currently functioning as a backup channel) is provided to a receive, or Rx, selector function 58. The Rx selector function 58 is able to select, given suitable control signals, a normal state or a backup state. When the Rx selector 58 is in the
- 15 normal state, the signal originating in a DWDM receiver 60 is passed on as the data channel to the processing subsystem 40 and the data component produced by the control subchannel demultiplexer function 54 is passed through to a transmit, or Tx, selector function 64, which will be described subsequently. When the Rx selector 58 is in the backup state, the signal originating in the DWDM receiver 60 is discarded, and
- 20 the data component produced by the control subchannel demultiplexer function 54 is passed through to the processing subsystem 40. The Rx selector function 58 can be implemented with, for example, a 2x2 analog switch of the type illustrated in Figs. 9-10.

- After having gone through the C/B channel drop function 50, the
- 25 incoming signal $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots \lambda_N$, less the CCBC wavelength λ_C , which has now been removed, next goes into the optical drop function 66 for the DWDM channel with which the specific type 1 node 24 being considered is associated. The optical drop function 66 removes the DWDM channel λ_P associated with this node 24 from the combined incoming signal and provides it to the DWDM receiver 60. The remaining
- 30 wavelengths $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots \lambda_N) - \lambda_C - \lambda_P$ pass through the optical drop function 66 unaffected. The exact nature of the DWDM optical drop component 66 depends on the wavelength λ_P associated with the specific type 1 node 24 being considered.

The DWDM receiver 60 transforms the isolated DWDM channel λ_P into an electrical signal. The resulting electrical signal goes to the Rx selector function 58, previously described.

The Tx selector function 64 is able to select, given suitable control signals, one of two configurations, the normal state or the backup state. In the normal state, the data signal from the processing subsystem 40 is passed to a DWDM transmitter 70, to be transmitted as this node 24's DWDM channel λ_P , and the data stream provided by the Rx selector function 58 is passed through as the data component into the control subchannel multiplexer function 72. When the Tx selector function 64 is in the backup state, the data signal from the processing subsystem 40 is passed as the data component into the control subchannel multiplexer function 72, and no signal is provided to the DWDM transmitter 70. The Tx selector function 64 can be implemented with, for example, a 2x2 analog switch of the type illustrated in Figs. 9-10. Again, such switches are available from, for example, Vitesse. The DWDM transmitter 70 is one suitable for the wavelength λ_P used for this channel.

The resulting optical signal is then incorporated into the combined DWDM signal ($\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots \lambda_N$)- λ_C by an optical add component 74 suitable for this wavelength λ_P . The output signal of the optical add component 74 will contain the wavelength λ_P associated with the specific type 1 node 24 being considered, as well as any other wavelengths ($\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots \lambda_N$)- λ_C present in the incoming signal. If no signal is provided to the DWDM transmitter 70, the latter is disabled and will not generate any optical signal to be added into the outgoing composite DWDM signal.

The control subchannel multiplex function 72 multiplexes the data stream provided by the Tx selector 64 with the control channel λ_C originating in the control subsystem 44. The exact nature of this multiplexing function 72 depends on the type and format of the signal, as explained above for the demultiplex function 54. It can be implemented with, for example, the same types of components and logical hardware identified above. The resulting signal is converted by the C/B transmitter 76 into an optical signal. The type of transmitter 76 required depends on the wavelength λ_C used for the CCBC 36.

The optical signal generated by the C/B transmitter 76 is incorporated into the combined DWDM signal $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots \lambda_N$ by the optical add function 78 for the

CCBC 36. The resulting Fiber OUT signal contains all wavelengths ($\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots \lambda_N$)- λ_C - λ_P which pass through the node 24 unaffected, as well as the particular DWDM channel wavelength λ_P associated with the specific type 1 node being considered (if that wavelength is active) and the wavelength λ_C used for the CCBC 36 carrying the
5 locally (re-)generated signal. In summary, the functional behavior of the optical subsystem 42 for the type 1 node 24 is as follows. The CCBC 36 is dropped 50. The control subchannel 56 is isolated 54 and passed 56 to the control subsystem 44. The incoming DWDM channel λ_P associated with the specific type 1 node 24 being considered is dropped 66 and passed 60, 58 to the processing subsystem 40. If the
10 backup channel has been activated to replace the DWDM channel λ_P associated with the node 24, the data component of the CCBC 36, instead of the DWDM channel λ_P , is passed 54, 58 to the processing subsystem 40.

In the normal state, the data signal provided by the processing subsystem 40 is transmitted 64 on the DWDM channel λ_P , which is incorporated 70,
15 74 into the combined DWDM signal $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots \lambda_N$ traversing the node 24. Also, the data component of the CCBC 36 passes through 54, 58, 64 the node 24 and is multiplexed 72 with the control signal generated 56 by the control subsystem 44. The combined signal is transmitted 76, 78 on the CCBC 36. This permits use of the CCBC 36 to replace wavelengths ($\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots \lambda_N$)- λ_P other than the one, λ_P , associated with
20 the specific type 1 node 24 being considered.

In the backup state, the data signal provided by the processing subsystem 40 is multiplexed 64, 72 with the control signal generated by the control subsystem 44, and the combined signal is then transmitted on the CCBC 36. It is assumed that all nodes 24, 28 associated with the failed wavelength λ_P will be in the
25 backup state with respect to this wavelength λ_P , and that this wavelength λ_P will thus be handled by all such nodes 24, 28 over the CCBC 36.

Once a node 24 is notified via the control channel that the DWDM channel λ_P with which it is associated should be transferred to the CCBC 36, that node 24 puts both its Rx selector 58 and its Tx selector 64 in the backup state.

30 Fig. 5 illustrates a possible architecture for an optical subsystem 48 for a type 2 node 28. The incoming fiber 22 carries a DWDM signal composed of three distinct types of wavelengths. One wavelength λ_C is the one associated with the

network 21's CCBC 36. A second type of wavelengths includes those wavelengths $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M$ terminated at the specific type 2 node 28 being considered. These go through a transceiver 34 comprising receivers 60-1, 60-2, \dots 60-M and transmitters 70-1, 70-2, \dots 70-M for the respective wavelengths $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M$ and are processed

5 by the processing subsystem 46 of the specific type 2 node 28 being considered. A third type of wavelengths includes those through wavelengths $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N) - (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M) - \lambda_C$ which pass through the specific type 2 node 28 being considered unaffected. These through wavelengths $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N) - (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M) - \lambda_C$ are bridged at the optical level from a DWDM demultiplexer 84 to DWDM multiplexer

10 86. The CCBC 36 is available to replace any channel $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M$ that is terminated locally. Note that no transceiver 34 failure can affect a through wavelength $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N) - (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M) - \lambda_C$, and hence there is no need for the CCBC 36 to protect any through wavelength $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N) - (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M) - \lambda_C$ at the specific type 2 node 28 being considered.

15 The combined signal $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$ first goes through an optical drop component 50 for the wavelength λ_C used by the CCBC 36. This optical drop 50 component illustratively can be identical to the one described above for the type 1 node 24. The C/B receiver function 52 and the control subchannel demultiplexer function 54 are identical to those described above for the type 1 node 24. After having

20 gone through the optical drop function 50 for the C/B channel, the incoming signal $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$ less the CCBC wavelength λ_C next goes into the DWDM demultiplexer 84. The DWDM demultiplexer 84 demultiplexes the composite DWDM signal less the CCBC wavelength $((\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N) - \lambda_C)$ into its constituent wavelengths. Each wavelength is then either connected to a suitable receiver 60-1, 60-2, \dots 60-M for

25 wavelengths $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M$, or fiber optically bridged to the DWDM multiplexer function 86 described below for through wavelength $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N) - (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M) - \lambda_C$. Receivers 60-1, 60-2, \dots 60-M transform the isolated DWDM channels $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M$ into electrical signals. The resulting electrical signals go into an Rx selector function 100.

30 The Rx selector function 100 has $M+1$ input ports and $M+1$ output ports, where M is the number of wavelengths terminated at the specific type 2 node 28 being considered. M inputs are connected to the electrical outputs of the $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots$

λM receivers 60-1, 60-2, . . . 60-M. The M+1st input is for the data component of the control subchannel demultiplexer function 54. M output ports of the Rx selector 58 are connected to the processing subsystem 46. The M+1st output is connected to a Tx selector 102 described below. Given suitable control signals, the Rx selector 100 can

5 configure either the normal state or the backup state. In the normal state, the M inputs from the $\lambda 1, \lambda 2, \dots \lambda M$ receivers 60-1, 60-2, . . . 60-M are routed to the M outputs connected to the processing subsystem 46. The data component produced by the control subchannel demultiplexer function 54 is passed through the Rx selector function 100 to the Tx selector function 102. In the backup state, one, λP , of the

10 signals originating in one of the $\lambda 1, \lambda 2, \dots \lambda M$ receivers 60-1, 60-2, . . . 60-M is discarded. The data component produced by the control subchannel demultiplexer function 54 is passed through to the processing subsystem 46 in the place of λP . The other signals ($\lambda 1, \lambda 2, \dots \lambda M$)- λP from the receivers (60-1, 60-2, . . . 60-M)-60-P are connected to the respective outputs of the Rx selector 100, as before. This

15 replacement of a DWDM channel λP by the CCBC 36 can be applied to any one of the DWDM channels 60-1, 60-2, . . . 60-M. Such a selector function 100 can be implemented with, for example, an $(M+1) \times (M+1)$ analog switch.

The Tx selector function 102 is similar to the Rx selector function 100. Given suitable control signals, the Tx selector 102 can configure either the normal

20 state or the backup state. In the normal state, the M inputs from the processing subsystem 46 are routed to the M outputs connected to the $\lambda 1, \lambda 2, \dots \lambda M$ transmitters 70-1, 70-2, . . . 70-M. The data stream from control subchannel demultiplexer 54 provided by the Rx selector function 100 is passed through Tx selector function 102 into the control subchannel multiplexer function 72. In the

25 backup state, one, λP , of the signals $\lambda 1, \lambda 2, \dots \lambda M$ from the processing subsystem 46 is passed as the data component into the control subchannel multiplexer function 72. The other M-1 signals ($\lambda 1, \lambda 2, \dots \lambda M$)- λP from the processing subsystem 46 are connected to their respective ($\lambda 1, \lambda 2, \dots \lambda M$)- λP transmitters (70-1, 70-2, . . . 70-M)-70-P. This replacement of a DWDM channel λP by the CCBC 36 can be applied

30 to any one of the DWDM channels $\lambda 1, \lambda 2, \dots \lambda M$. Again, such a selector function 102 can, for example, be implemented with an $(M+1) \times (M+1)$ analog switch.

The $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M$ transmitters 70-1, 70-2, \dots 70-M are components suitable for the wavelengths used for their respective DWDM channels $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M$. The resulting $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M$ optical signals are then assembled into the composite DWDM signal $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N)-\lambda_C$ by the DWDM multiplexer component 86. The output signal of the DWDM multiplexer component 86 under normal conditions contains all the DWDM wavelengths $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M$ generated by the local transmitters as well as those $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N)-(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M)$ optically bridged from the DWDM demultiplexer 84. In the backup mode, if one, λ_P , of the $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M$ channels is replaced by the CCBC 36, then the corresponding transmitter 70-P will not generate any signal.

The control subchannel multiplexer function 72 multiplexes the data stream provided by the Tx selector 102 with the control channel 56 originating in a control subsystem 106 (Fig. 3). The control subchannel multiplexer component 72 can, for example, be the same as the one described above in connection with the description of the type 1 node 24.

The optical signal λ_C generated by the C/B transmitter 76 is incorporated into the combined DWDM signal $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$ by the optical add function 78 for the CCBC 36. The resulting Fiber OUT signal contains all pass-through wavelengths $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N)-(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M)-\lambda_C$, as well as the local DWDM channel wavelengths $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M)$ and the wavelength λ_C used for the CCBC, carrying the locally (re-)generated signal away from the specific type 2 node 28 being considered.

According to another aspect of the invention, two different additional protection mechanisms are explored. These are generally referred to hereinafter as Fiber Loopback Protection (hereinafter generally referred to as FLP), and Wavelength Loopback Protection (hereinafter generally referred to as WLP). With reference to Fig. 6, a network 21' constructed according to the invention operates over a pair of parallel fiber rings 22-1, 22-2 that carry traffic in opposite directions (hereinafter sometimes referred to for convenience as West and East). Under normal conditions only one, 22-1, of the fibers is normally used for traffic. The second fiber 22-2 is normally used only to overcome faults. For purposes of the following description, the fiber 22-1 which is designated normally to carry the traffic is called the primary fiber.

The traffic direction on the primary fiber 22-1 will sometimes be referred to hereinafter as clockwise, or West to East. The second fiber 22-2 is called the protection fiber.

The traffic direction on the protection fiber 22-2 will sometimes be referred to hereinafter as counterclockwise, or East to West. As previously noted, under normal
5 conditions, all DWDM channels $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$ are transmitted on the primary fiber 22-1.

Both FLP and WLP can be augmented to withstand the failure of a DWDM transceiver 34 using the CCBC reliability strategy. In the implementation of this strategy, a single, specific channel λ_C is used as a CCBC 36 for any failed DWDM
10 channel $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$. When a transceiver 34 for any one, λ_P , of the DWDM channels $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$ in any of the nodes 24, 28 fails, the backup channel λ_C replaces this channel λ_P . All other nodes 24, 28 which access this wavelength λ_P replace it with the backup channel λ_C . The network control channel, used for management and fault reporting, is also carried by the same signal λ_C . Therefore the
15 CCBC 36 is dropped and added at every node 24, 28. Several methods can be employed to multiplex the control information carried by λ_C and the data to be carried by the backup channel when the backup channel is activated. One method, applicable when the data channels in the network use SONET/SDH framing, is to have the control channel use the DCC bytes in the section overhead of the SONET/SDH signal.

20 The optical subsystems 42, 48 have the capability to terminate and generate all the DWDM channels accessed by a node 24, 28 and to pass the remaining channels. The optical subsystem 42, 48 incorporates multiplexing and demultiplexing functionality for the DWDM channels, as well as suitable receivers 60 and transmitters 70. The optical subsystem 42, 48 also provides an optical interface to the control
25 channel and permits the type 2 node to participate in network-wide protection and backup activation events. The control subsystem 44, 106 manages, configures and monitors the operation of the other subsystems, and handles all communications on the CCBC 36.

Under FLP, a fault 120, for example, a fiber cut, or a transmission
30 impairment which degrades the quality of any signal traversing the faulty segment, which renders a segment of the network 21' unusable, is handled by looping back all signals carried by the primary fiber 22-1 using the protection fiber 22-2. As illustrated

in Figs. 6 and 7, looping back all signals carried by the primary fiber 22-1 using the protection fiber 22-2 "closes" the disrupted network 21'. Each node 20 can be either a type 1 node 24 or a type 2 node 28. When any kind of fault 120 (Fig. 7), for example, a fiber cut, occurs on the network 21', the affected nodes 20 loop away from the fault 120, using the protection fiber 22-2.

FLP can be implemented in type 1 nodes 24 using, for example, the architecture illustrated in Figs. 8-10. Optical switches 124, 126 permit route switching for optical signals $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$. A 2X2 optical switch 124, 126 has two optical inputs 128, 130 and two optical outputs 132, 134. The optical switches 124, 126 have two possible settings, one illustrated in Fig. 9 and the other illustrated in Fig. 10. The optical switches 124, 126 can be programmed electronically to alter their current setting. An OADM 26 removes the wavelength λ_P associated with the specific type 1 node 24 under consideration from the combined incoming signal $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$ and provides the isolated wavelength λ_P to a receiver (Rx) function 60 within a transceiver 34. The remaining wavelengths ($\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$)- λ_P pass through the drop component 66 of OADM 26 unchanged, and are added back to the primary fiber 22-1 by the add component 74 of OADM 26. The optical signal λ_P generated by the transmitter (Tx) function 70 of the specific type 1 node 24 under consideration, assumed to be of the same wavelength λ_P as the wavelength λ_P isolated by the type 1 node 24's Rx function 60, is combined by the add component 74 of the OADM 26 with all the remaining wavelengths ($\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$)- λ_P . The exact nature of the OADM component 26 depends on the wavelength λ_P used for that channel. The transceiver function 34 (comprising a DWDM receiver 60 and transmitter 70) provides the optical-to-electrical and electrical-to-optical conversions which interface the processing subsystem 40 to the optical subsystem 42.

The optical switches 124, 126 permit the network 21' to effect normal routing in which the signal coming in on the primary fiber 22-1 from the West goes through the OADM 26 and out Eastbound. Any signal λ_C on the protection fiber 22-2 passes through the optical switches 124, 126 in an East-to-West direction unaffected. Normal routing is used by the node 24 being considered under normal conditions (no faults 120) as well as by all other nodes 24, 28 that are not adjacent to any existing faults 120.

The optical switches 124, 126 also permit the system to effect West loopback routing 150 (Fig. 7). In West loopback routing 150, the signals coming in on the primary fiber 22-1 from the West go through the OADM 26 and are looped back by the Eastern switch 126 into the protection fiber 22-2. Once routed to the
5 protection fiber 22-2, the signals coming in on the primary fiber 22-1 from the West travel back West. The Eastern interface 130, 132 is practically disabled eastward from the node 24 at which switching has occurred. West loopback routing 150 is used to overcome a fault 120, such as a fiber cut or failed node, East adjacent the node 24 at which switching has occurred.

10 The optical switches 124, 126 also permit the system to effect East loopback routing 152 (Fig. 7). In East loopback routing 152, the signals coming in on the protection fiber 22-2 from the East go through the OADM 26 and are looped back by the Eastern switch 126 into the primary fiber 22-1. Once routed to the primary fiber 22-1, the signals coming in on the protection fiber 22-2 from the East travel back
15 East on primary fiber 22-1. The Western interface 128, 134 is practically disabled westward from the node 24 at which switching has occurred. East loopback routing 152 is used to overcome a fault 120, such as a fiber cut or failed node, West adjacent the node 24 at which switching has occurred.

FLP can be implemented in type 2 nodes 28 using, for example, the
20 architecture illustrated in Fig. 11. The functions of the optical switches 124, 126 are identical. The optical signal entering the DWDM demultiplexer 84 is assumed to carry all the wavelengths $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$ currently active in the network 21'. The optical demultiplexer 84 demultiplexes the combined wavelength signal into its constituent wavelengths $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$. Each of the wavelengths $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M$ that is
25 terminated at the specific type 2 node 28 under consideration then goes through a respective receiver 60-1, 60-2, \dots 60-M. The receivers 60-1, 60-2, \dots 60-M transform the optical signals $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M$ into electrical signals, which are then provided to the processing subsystem 46. Likewise the multiple electrical signals provided by the processing subsystem 46 are supplied to their respective DWDM
30 transmitters 70-1, 70-2, \dots 70-M, which convert the multiple electrical signals into optical signals, each at its own required wavelength $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M$. These different wavelengths $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M$ are then combined into a single fiber by the optical

5 multiplex component 86. Some wavelengths $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N) - (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M)$ may not be terminated at the specific type 2 node 28 under consideration. These unterminated wavelengths $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N) - (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M)$ will be optically bridged from the optical demultiplexer 84 to the optical multiplexer 86 and will not go through the transceiver 34.

10 A network 21' using FLP as described above can withstand faults 120 such as fiber cuts or other types of faults that render a segment of the fiber 22-1, 22-2 unusable. Augmenting FLP with a CCBC architecture, as described above in connection with Figs. 4-5, can enhance the resilience of the network 21' by enabling it to withstand the failure of different optical modules, such as transceivers 34 or OADM components 66, 74, 84, 86. This enhanced resilience is achieved by having the CCBC 36 replace any of the DWDM channels in use should they fail, again as described above in connection with Figs. 4-5.

15 Incorporating CCBC into a type 1 node 24 can be achieved by replacing its optical subsystem 42 with the one described above in connection with Fig. 4 for a type 1 node 24. In a similar manner, incorporating CCBC into a type 2 node can be achieved by replacing its optical subsystem 42 with the one described above in connection with Fig. 5.

20 Unlike FLP, in which the whole fiber 22-1, 22-2 is looped away from a fault 120, under WLP each wavelength $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$ can be looped back at each node that accesses it, independently of the other wavelengths $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$. In other words, a type 1 node 24 can loop back only the wavelength $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$ associated with it and a type 2 node 28 can loop back any of the wavelengths $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$ which it terminates, and can loop back any of the wavelengths $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$ which it terminates independently of its handling of any other wavelength $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$. When describing the behavior of the network 21' with respect to a specific wavelength λ_P , it is possible to describe the normal behavior of the network 21' with respect to λ_P , ignoring all nodes 24, 28 that do not access λ_P . Fig. 12 illustrates the transmission of λ_P under normal conditions. The symbol \blacktriangle indicates an optical add operation 74, 86 and a transmitter 70, 70-1, 70-2, \dots 70-N. The symbol \blacktriangledown indicates an optical drop operation 66, 84 and a receiver 60, 60-1, 60-2, \dots 60-N. Fig. 13 illustrates how the network 21' illustrated in Fig. 12 responds when a fault 120,

indicated by the symbol \times , renders one of the interconnecting segments of primary fiber 22-1 unusable for a wavelength λ_P . Again, it must be understood that this modified routing applies to a particular wavelength λ_P , but may not necessarily apply to other wavelengths ($\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$)- λ_P which may traverse the fault 120 at \times unaffected.

It can be seen that the nodes 20 adjacent to the fault 120 have looped their λ_P transmissions away from the fault 120. Nodes 20 capable of processing λ_P , but not adjacent the λ_P fault 120, illustrated in Fig. 13 as a single node 20 on each side of the fault 120 for simplicity, process the signal on its West-to-East traversal (the primary fiber 22-1) and pass λ_P unaffected. A λ_P fault 120 on any network 21' segment is handled in this manner. This explanation applies regardless of the number of nodes 20 that access λ_P . The following rules thus summarize the network 21's response to a λ_P fault 120 at any location \times . Of the nodes 20 that access λ_P , the node 20 closest to the fault 120 to the East of the fault 120 activates its East loopback 152 for λ_P . The node 20 closest to the fault 120 to the West activates its West loopback 150 for λ_P . All other nodes 20 remain in their normal configurations, processing λ_P on the primary fiber 22-1 and passing λ_P on the protection fiber 22-2.

The functionality required to support WLP in type 1 nodes 24 can be implemented using, for example, the optical subsystem 42 architecture illustrated in Fig. 14. The OADM demultiplexer component 66-1 removes the wavelength λ_P associated with the specific type 1 node 24 under consideration from the combined incoming signal $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$ and provides the isolated wavelength λ_P to an Rx optical switch 124. The remaining wavelengths ($\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$)- λ_P pass through the Rx optical switch 124 unaffected. Likewise the optical signal originating in the Tx optical switch 126, assumed to be of the same wavelength λ_P , is combined by the OADM 74-1 with all the remaining wavelengths ($\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$)- λ_P which pass through the Tx optical switch 126 unaffected. The OADM components 66-1, 66-2, 74-1, 74-2 selected depend on the wavelength λ_P used for that channel. The transceiver function 34 (comprising a DWDM transmitter 70 and receiver 60) provides the optical-to-electrical and electrical-to-optical conversions which interface the processing subsystem 40 to the optical subsystem 42. The 2X2 optical switches 124,

126 illustratively are of the same type as those described above for the FLP implementation.

The Tx 126 and Rx 124 optical switches permit the node 24 to effect normal routing when both switches 124, 126 are in the positions illustrated in Fig. 9. Under normal conditions (no fault 120) and in all nodes 24 that are not adjacent to a fault 120 if one exists, the λP wavelength dropped by the OADM 66-1 on the primary fiber 22-1 is routed by the Rx optical switch 124 to the Rx function 60 within the transceiver 34. The λP optical signal generated by the Tx function 70 is routed by the Tx optical switch 126 to the Add function 74-1 within the OADM on the primary fiber 22-1, and is combined by the OADM 66-1, 74-1 into the eastbound-outgoing signal $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$. If λP is present on the protection fiber 22-2, λP is routed 66-2, 124, 126, 74-2 from Westbound ingress to Westbound egress unaffected.

To overcome, for example, a fiber cut or failed node directly to the East of the node 24 illustrated in Fig. 14, the Rx switch 124 is placed in the normal mode illustrated in Fig. 9, and the Tx switch 126 is placed in the crossed mode illustrated in Fig. 10. In this West loopback mode 150, the λP signal dropped by the OADM 66-1 from the primary fiber 22-1 (i.e. from the West) is routed by the Rx switch 124 to the Rx function 60 of the transceiver 34. The signal generated by the Tx function 70 of the transceiver 34 is routed by the Tx switch 126 to the Add function 74-2 of the OADM 66-2, 74-2 on the protection fiber 22-2, and thus exits Westbound from the illustrated node 24. The Eastbound interface of the node is practically disabled.

To overcome, for example, a fiber cut or failed node directly to the West of the node 24 illustrated in Fig. 14, the Tx switch 126 is placed in the normal mode illustrated in Fig. 9, and the Rx switch 124 is placed in the crossed mode illustrated in Fig. 10. In this East loopback mode 152, the λP signal dropped by the Drop function 66-2 of the OADM 26-2 from the protection fiber 22-2 (i.e., from the East) is routed by the Rx switch 124 to the Rx function 60 of the transceiver 34. The signal generated by the Tx function 70 of the transceiver 34 is routed by the Tx switch 126 to the Add function 74-1 of the OADM 26-1 on the primary fiber 22-1, and thus exits Eastbound from the illustrated node 24. The Westbound interface of the node 24 is practically disabled.

All wavelengths $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$ other than λ_P pass through the node 24 unaffected in both directions. Under normal conditions all wavelengths $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$ are dropped 66-1 and transmitted 74-1 on the primary fiber 22-1. In the presence of a fault 120 affecting one or more wavelengths λ_P , the two nodes 20 adjacent the fault 120 for each such wavelength λ_P can loop 150, 152 that wavelength λ_P away from the fault 120. As in the case of FLP, each node 20 transmits each wavelength $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$ in only one direction, and consequently a single transceiver 34 per wavelength $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$ need be provided for each node 20 accessing that particular wavelength $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$.

A possible architecture which supports WLP in type 2 nodes is illustrated in Fig. 15. As illustrated in Fig. 15, the optical signal $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$ entering the DWDM demultiplexer 84-1, 84-2 on each of the fibers 22-1, 22-2 is assumed to be carrying some number of wavelengths, potentially all the wavelengths $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$ active in the network 21'. An optical demultiplexer function 84-1, 84-2 demultiplexes this combined signal into its constituent wavelengths $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$. As Fig. 15 illustrates, for each wavelength $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M$ terminated in this node 28, the version of the wavelength $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M$ derived from the demultiplexer 84-1 on the primary fiber 22-1 and the version $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M$ derived from the demultiplexer 84-2 on the protection fiber 22-2 are both coupled to an Rx switch 126 for possible application to the Rx/Tx block 60-1, 70-1, 60-2, 70-2, \dots 60-M, 70-M, associated with that wavelength $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M$. For each wavelength $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M$, the version of $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M$ generated by the Rx/Tx block 60-1, 70-1, 60-2, 70-2, \dots 60-M, 70-M, for that wavelength $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M$, and the version of $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M$ passed directly from that wavelength's respective Rx switch 124 to that wavelength's respective Tx switch 126 are connected to the two optical multiplexer functions 86-1, 86-2, one on each fiber 22-1, 22-2. Each multiplexer 86-1, 86-2 then combines all the different wavelengths $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$ it receives into a single optical signal $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$.

Some wavelengths $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N) - (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M)$ may not be terminated in the illustrated node 28. These will be optically bridged from the optical demultiplexer 84-1, 84-2 to the optical multiplexer 86-1, 86-2 and will not go through a transceiver 34.

Each of the M Rx/Tx blocks 60-1, 70-1, 60-2, 70-2, . . . 60-M, 70-M and switches 124, 126 illustrated in Fig. 15 is identical to the respective component illustrated in Fig. 14 for the type 1 node 24. That is, each such transceiver block includes a transceiver 60-1, 70-1, 60-2, 70-2, . . . 60-M, 70-M, and two optical switches 124, 126. The receiver 60-1, 60-2, . . . 60-M and transmitter 70-1, 70-2, . . . 70-M are specific to the wavelength λ_1 , λ_2 , . . . λ_M assigned to that receiver 60-1, 60-2, . . . 60-M and transmitter 70-1, 70-2, . . . 70-M. The functional description of the receiver 60-1, 60-2, . . . 60-M and transmitter 70-1, 70-2, . . . 70-M is also similar. That is, receiver 60-1, 60-2, . . . 60-M and transmitter 70-1, 70-2, . . . 70-M and their respective switches 124, 126 permit each wavelength λ_1 , λ_2 , . . . λ_M either to run on the primary fiber 22-1 or to be looped back to the East or to the West. The implementation illustrated in Fig. 15 thus permits the type 2 node 28 to route each of the wavelengths λ_1 , λ_2 , . . . λ_M independently of other wavelengths λ_1 , λ_2 , . . . λ_M as required.

WLP can also be augmented with CCBC. A network 21' which embodies WLP as described above can withstand faults 120 such as fiber cuts or other types of faults that render a segment of the fiber 22-1, 22-2 unusable for one or more wavelengths λ_1 , λ_2 , . . . λ_N . Augmenting WLP with CCBC can enhance the resilience of the network 21' by enabling it to withstand the failure of different optical modules such as transceivers 34 or OADM components 66, 74, 84, 86. This enhanced resilience is achieved by having the CCBC 36 replace any of the DWDM channels λ_1 , λ_2 , . . . λ_N in use should any of the DWDM channels λ_1 , λ_2 , . . . λ_N fail.

Incorporating CCBC into a type 1 node 24 entails changing the implementation of the node 24's optical subsystem 42, for example, as described in connection with Fig. 16. The Rx/Tx block 60, 70, 124, 126 for the DWDM channel λ_P illustratively is the same as those discussed above. The CCBC 36 is treated in the same way as other channels (λ_1 , λ_2 , . . . λ_N)- λ_C . The CCBC 36 is also protected by the WLP mechanism and can be looped back at any node 24, 28 if necessary, independently of other wavelengths (λ_1 , λ_2 , . . . λ_N)- λ_C . It is thus handled by a Rx/Tx block 52, 76, 124, 126 similar to that used by the DWDM channel λ_P , with the Rx/Tx block 52, 76, 124, 126 suited to the wavelength λ_C being used by the CCBC 36. The roles of the control subchannel multiplexer 72 and demultiplexer 54, as well

as those of the Rx 58 and Tx 64 selectors, are as discussed above. They permit the CCBC 36 wavelength λ_C to replace the corresponding DWDM channel wavelength λ_P in the event of a fault 120 such as, for example, the malfunctioning of the transmitter 70 in the Rx/Tx block 60, 70, 124, 126 for the DWDM channel λ_P . The
5 CCBC 36 will replace this λ_P in all nodes that access λ_P .

Incorporating CCBC into a type 2 node 28 entails modifying that node 28's optical subsystem 48 as illustrated in Fig. 17. The Rx/Tx blocks 60-1, 70-1, 124, 126, 60-2, 70-2, 124, 126, . . . 60-M, 70-M, 124, 126 are as described in connection with the descriptions of earlier embodiments. The CCBC 36 is treated in the same way
10 as other channels $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots \lambda_N$. That is, the CCBC 36 is protected by the FLP mechanism and can be looped back at any node 24, 28 if necessary, independently of other wavelengths $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots \lambda_N$. It is thus handled by an Rx/Tx block 52, 76, 124, 126 similar to those used by the DWDM channels $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots \lambda_N$, with the receiver 52 and transmitter 76 suited to the wavelength λ_C being used by the CCBC 36.

15 The roles of the control subchannel multiplexer 72 and demultiplexer 54, and those of the Rx 58 and Tx 64 selectors, are as discussed above. The control sub-channel multiplexer 72 and demultiplexer 54 permit the CCBC 36 to replace any of the DWDM channels $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots \lambda_N$ terminated at this node 28 in case of failure such as, for example, the malfunctioning of the transmitter 70-P in the Rx/Tx block 60-
20 P, 70-P, 124, 126 for that DWDM channel λ_P . Again, it should be noted that the CCBC 36 will replace this wavelength λ_P in all nodes 20 which access it.

To summarize the functional behavior of the optical subsystem 48 for the type 2 node 28, the CCBC 36 is dropped 50. The control subchannel 56 is isolated 54 and passed to the control subsystem 106. The incoming DWDM channels $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots \lambda_M$ terminated at this node 28 are dropped 84-1, 84-2 and passed 124, 60-1, 124, 60-2, . . . 124, 60-M, 58 to the processing subsystem 46. If the CCBC 36 has been
25 activated to replace one of the DWDM channels $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots \lambda_M$ associated with the type 2 node under consideration, the data component of the CCBC 36 is passed 124, 52, 54, 58 to the processing subsystem 46 instead of one of the DWDM channels $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots \lambda_M$.
30

When the optical subsystem 48 is in the normal state, the data signals provided by the processing subsystem 46 are transmitted on the DWDM channels $\lambda_1,$

$\lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M$, which are multiplexed into a combined DWDM signal $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$. The data component of the CCBC 36 is passed 54, 58, 64 through the system transparently and is multiplexed 72 with the control signal 56 generated by the control subsystem 106. The combined signal is transmitted on the CCBC 36. This permits the
5 CCBC 36 to replace wavelengths $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N) - (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M)$ other than the ones $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M$ associated with the type 2 node 28 under consideration.

When the type 2 node 28 under consideration is in the backup state, one of the data signals provided by the processing subsystem 46 is multiplexed 64, 72 with the control signal 56 generated by the control subsystem 106, and the combined
10 72 signal is transmitted 76, 126, 78 on the CCBC 36. Other data signals follow their normal paths. It is assumed that all nodes 20 which would otherwise receive the failed wavelength will be in their backup states with respect to the failed wavelength. Once a node 20 is notified through the CCBC 36 that one of the DWDM channels $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$ it terminates should be transitioned to the CCBC 36, it puts both its Rx selector 58
15 and its Tx selector 64 in the backup state.

OADM's 26 can be implemented using, for example, E-TEK model ADOM200031310 OADM's. Transceivers 34 can be implemented using, for example, Hewlett-Packard model RGR-2622 receivers and model HFCT-10XX transmitters. DWDM demultiplexers 84 and DWDM multiplexers 86 can be implemented using, for
20 example, E-TEK model DWDM2F0822310 demultiplexers and model DWDM2F0821310 multiplexers. Switches 124, 126 can be implemented using, for example, Vitesse model VSC830 2X2 switches. Rx and Tx selectors 58, 64, respectively, can be implemented using, for example, Vitesse model VSC880 nXn switches.

Claims

1. In combination, a closed loop optical fiber for carrying information modulated on at least two optical carriers, a first one of the carriers having a first wavelength and a second one of the carriers having a second wavelength, at least two nodes at a first one of which first information modulated on the first carrier and second information modulated on the second carrier is to be recovered and transmitted, the first node comprising a first demultiplexer for demultiplexing the first carrier from the fiber, a second demultiplexer for demultiplexing the second carrier from the fiber, a first multiplexer for multiplexing the first carrier on the fiber, a second multiplexer for multiplexing the second carrier on the fiber, and apparatus for receiving and transmitting first and second information, the apparatus for receiving and transmitting first and second information consisting essentially of a first receiver for demodulating first information and a first transmitter for modulating first information on the first carrier before the first carrier is placed on the fiber by the first multiplexer, a second receiver for demodulating second information and a second transmitter for modulating second information on the second carrier before the second carrier is placed on the fiber by the second multiplexer.

2. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising first and second switches, each of the first and second switches having first and second input ports and first and second output ports, each of the first and second switches having first and second states, the first state of each of the first and second switches coupling the respective first and second switch's first input port to its first output port and its second input port to its second output port, the second state of each of the first and second switches coupling the respective first and second switch's first input port to its second output port and its second input port to its first output port, the first receiver coupled to the first input port of the first switch, the second receiver coupled to the second input port of the first switch, the second output port of the first switch being coupled to the second input port of the second switch, the first output port of the second switch being coupled to the first transmitter, the second output port of the second switch being coupled to the second transmitter, the node controlling the first and second switches so that when the first carrier is not capable of transmitting first

information over the fiber, the first information is modulated on the second carrier for transmission over the fiber.

3. The apparatus of claim 2 further comprising a third optical carrier having a third wavelength, the first demultiplexer also removing the third carrier from the fiber, the first multiplexer also placing the third carrier on the fiber, and
5 apparatus for receiving and transmitting third information, the apparatus for receiving and transmitting third information consisting essentially of a third receiver for demodulating third information from the third carrier and a third transmitter for modulating third information on the third carrier before the third carrier is placed on
10 the fiber by the first multiplexer, the fiber coupling the third carrier to the first demultiplexer and the first multiplexer coupling the third carrier to the fiber.

4. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein each of the first and second switches has first, second and third input ports and first, second and third output ports, each of the first and second switches having first, second, third and fourth states, the
15 first state of each of the first and second switches coupling its first input port to its first output port, its second input port to its second output port, and its third input port to its third output port, the second state of each of the first and second switches coupling its first input port to its second output port, its second input port to its first output port and its third input port to its third output port, the third state of each of the first and
20 second switches coupling its first input port to its first output port, its second input port to its third output port, and its third input port to its second output port, and the fourth state of each of the first and second switches coupling its first input port to its third output port, its third input port to its first output port, and its second input port to its second output port, the first receiver being coupled to the first input port of the
25 first switch, the second receiver being coupled to the second input port of the first switch and the third receiver being coupled to the third input port of the first switch, the third output port of the first switch being coupled to the third input port of the second switch, the node controlling the first and second switches so that when one of the first and third carriers is not capable of transmitting a respective one of first and
30 third information over the fiber, the respective one of first and third information is modulated on the second carrier for transmission over the fiber.

5. The apparatus of claim 4 further comprising a fourth optical carrier having a fourth wavelength, the fiber coupling the fourth optical carrier through at least one of the first and second demultiplexers and through at least one of the first and second multiplexers so that the fourth optical carrier passes through the first node
5 unaffected.

6. The apparatus of claim 5 wherein the fiber couples the fourth optical carrier through the first and second demultiplexers and through the first and second multiplexers.

7. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a third optical
10 carrier having a third wavelength, the fiber coupling the third optical carrier through at least one of the first and second demultiplexers and through at least one of the first and second multiplexers so that the third optical carrier passes through the first node unaffected.

8. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the fiber couples the third
15 optical carrier through both of the first and second demultiplexers and through both of the first and second multiplexers so that the third optical carrier passes through the first node unaffected.

9. In combination, first and second loops of optical fiber for carrying information modulated on a first optical carrier, the first carrier having a first
20 wavelength, at least two nodes at a first one of which first information modulated on the first carrier is to be received and transmitted, the first node comprising a first demultiplexer for demultiplexing the first carrier from the first fiber, a first multiplexer for multiplexing the first carrier on the first fiber, and apparatus coupled to the first demultiplexer for receiving, and to the first multiplexer for transmitting, first
25 information, first and second switches, each of the first and second switches having first and second input ports and first and second output ports, each of the first and second switches having first and second states, the first state of each of the first and second switches coupling the respective switch's first input port to its first output port and its second input port to its second output port, the second state of each of the first
30 and second switches coupling the respective switch's first input port to its second output port and its second input port to its first output port, the first optical fiber coupled to the first input port of the first switch and to the first output port of the

second switch, the second optical fiber coupled to the second input port of the first switch and to the second output port of the second switch, the first output port of the first switch coupled to the first demultiplexer, the first multiplexer coupled to the first input port of the second switch, and the second output port of the first switch coupled
5 to the second input port of the second switch.

10. The apparatus of claim 9 further comprising a second optical carrier transmitted along the second optical fiber in a second direction opposite to the first direction, the second carrier having a second wavelength λ_C .

11. The apparatus of claim 10 further comprising a third optical
10 carrier, second information modulated on the third carrier, the third carrier transmitted along the first optical fiber in the first direction.

12. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the first demultiplexer demultiplexes the third carrier from the first fiber, the first multiplexer multiplexes the third carrier on the first fiber, and further comprising apparatus coupled to the first
15 demultiplexer for receiving, and to the first multiplexer for transmitting, second information.

13. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the first node controls the first and second switches so that when one of the first and second optical carriers is incapable of being transmitted along its respective fiber in its respective direction, one
20 of the first and second switches is switched from its first state to its second state so that the respective optical carrier is transmitted in the opposite direction on the other of the first and second fibers.

14. The apparatus of claim 9 further comprising a second optical carrier, second information modulated on the second carrier, the second carrier
25 transmitted along the first optical fiber in the first direction.

15. The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the first demultiplexer demultiplexes the second carrier from the first fiber, the first multiplexer multiplexes the second carrier on the first fiber, and further comprising apparatus coupled to the first demultiplexer for receiving, and to the first multiplexer for transmitting, second
30 information.

16. In combination, first and second closed loop optical fibers for carrying information modulated on a first optical carrier, the first carrier having a first

wavelength, at least two nodes at a first one of which first information modulated on the first carrier is to be received and transmitted, the first node comprising a first demultiplexer for demultiplexing the first carrier from the first fiber, a first multiplexer for multiplexing the first carrier on the first fiber, a second demultiplexer for
5 demultiplexing the first carrier from the second fiber, a second multiplexer for multiplexing the first carrier on the second fiber, first apparatus coupled to the first demultiplexer for receiving, and to the first multiplexer for transmitting, first information, first and second switches, each of the first and second switches having first and second input ports and first and second output ports, each of the first and
10 second switches having first and second states, the first state of each of the first and second switches coupling the respective switch's first input port to its first output port and its second input port to its second output port, the second state of each of the first and second switches coupling the respective switch's first input port to its second output port and its second input port to its first output port, the first optical fiber
15 coupled to the first demultiplexer, the first demultiplexer coupled to the first input port of the first switch, the second demultiplexer coupled to the second input port of the first switch, the first output port of the first switch coupled to the first receiving apparatus, the first transmitting apparatus coupled to the first input port of the second switch, the second output port of the first switch coupled to the second input port of
20 the second switch, the first output port of the second switch coupled to the first multiplexer, and the second output port of the second switch coupled to the second multiplexer.

17. The apparatus of claim 16 wherein the first node controls the first and second switches so that when the first optical carrier is incapable of being
25 transmitted along the first fiber in the first direction, one of the first and second switches is switched from its first state to its second state so that the first optical carrier is transmitted in the second direction on the second fiber.

18. The apparatus of claim 16 further comprising a second optical carrier, second information modulated on the second carrier, the second carrier
30 transmitted along the first optical fiber in the first direction.

19. The apparatus of claim 18 wherein the first and second demultiplexers are each capable of demultiplexing the first carrier and the second

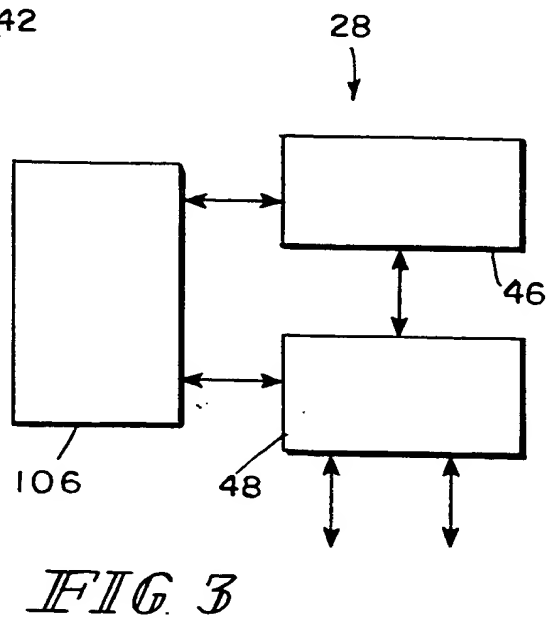
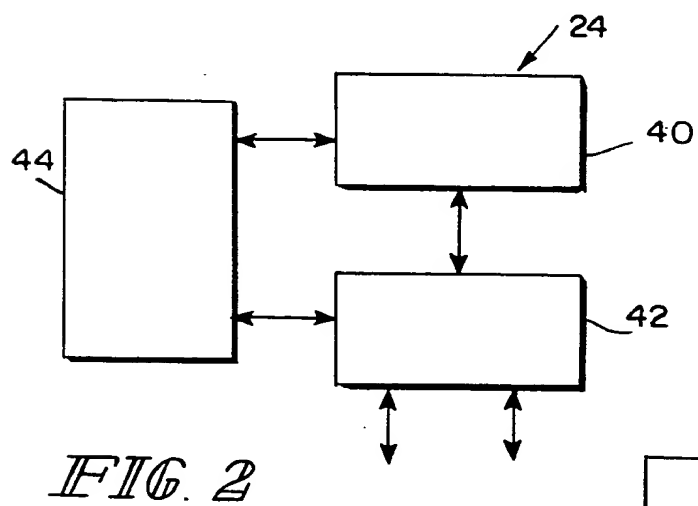
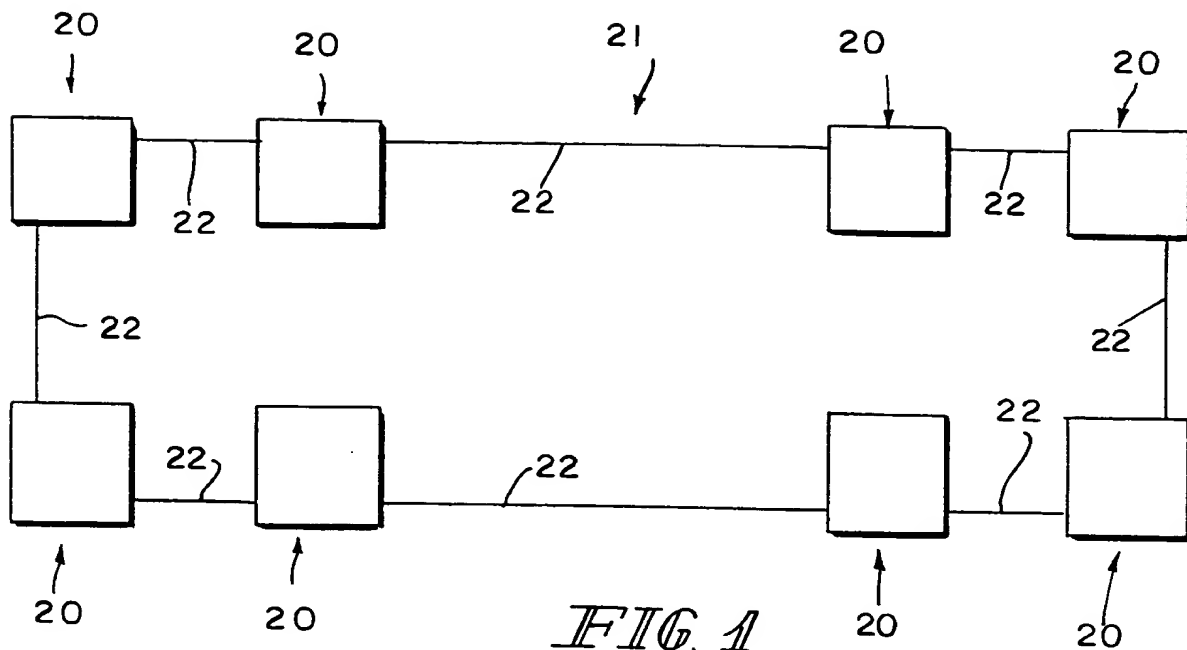
carrier, and further comprising second apparatus for receiving and transmitting the second carrier, the second apparatus coupled to the first and second demultiplexers for receiving, and to the first and second multiplexers for transmitting, the second information.

5 20. The apparatus of claim 19 and further comprising third and fourth switches, each of the third and fourth switches having first and second input ports and first and second output ports, each of the third and fourth switches having first and second states, the first state of each of the third and fourth switches coupling the respective switch's first input port to its first output port and its second input port
10 to its second output port, the second state of each of the third and fourth switches coupling the respective switch's first input port to its second output port and its second input port to its first output port, the first optical fiber coupled to the first demultiplexer, the first demultiplexer coupled to the first input port of the third switch, the second demultiplexer coupled to the second input port of the third switch, the first
15 output port of the third switch coupled to the second receiving apparatus, the second transmitting apparatus coupled to the first input port of the fourth switch, the second output port of the third switch coupled to the second input port of the fourth switch, the first output port of the fourth switch coupled to the first multiplexer, and the second output port of the fourth switch coupled to the second multiplexer.

20 21. The apparatus of claim 20 wherein the first node controls the third and fourth switches so that when the second optical carrier is incapable of being transmitted along the first fiber in the first direction, one of the third and fourth switches is switched from its first state to its second state so that the second optical carrier is transmitted in the second direction on the second fiber.

25 22. The apparatus of claim 16 further comprising a second optical carrier transmitted along the second optical fiber in a second direction opposite to the first direction, the second carrier having a second wavelength λC .

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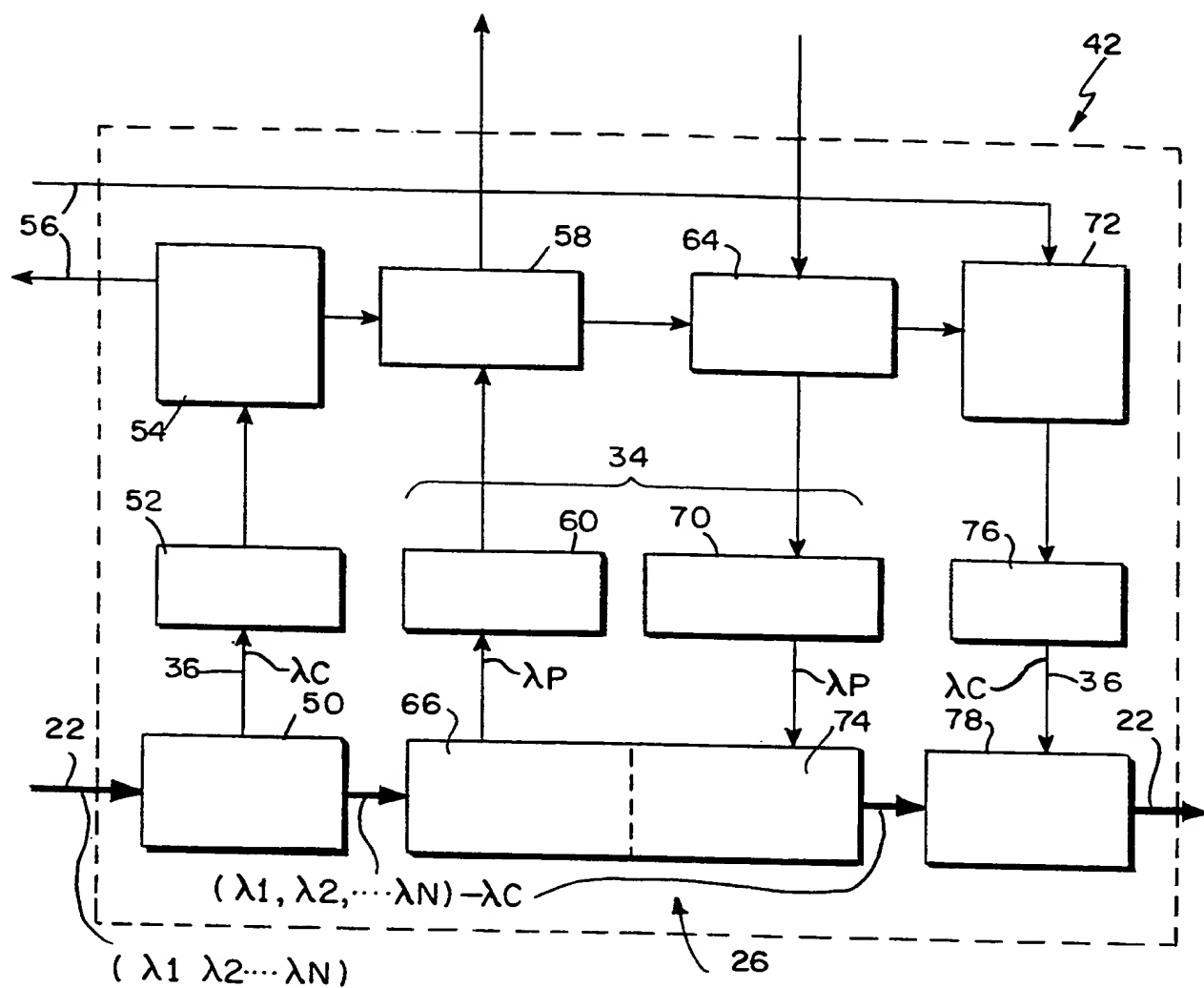


FIG. 4

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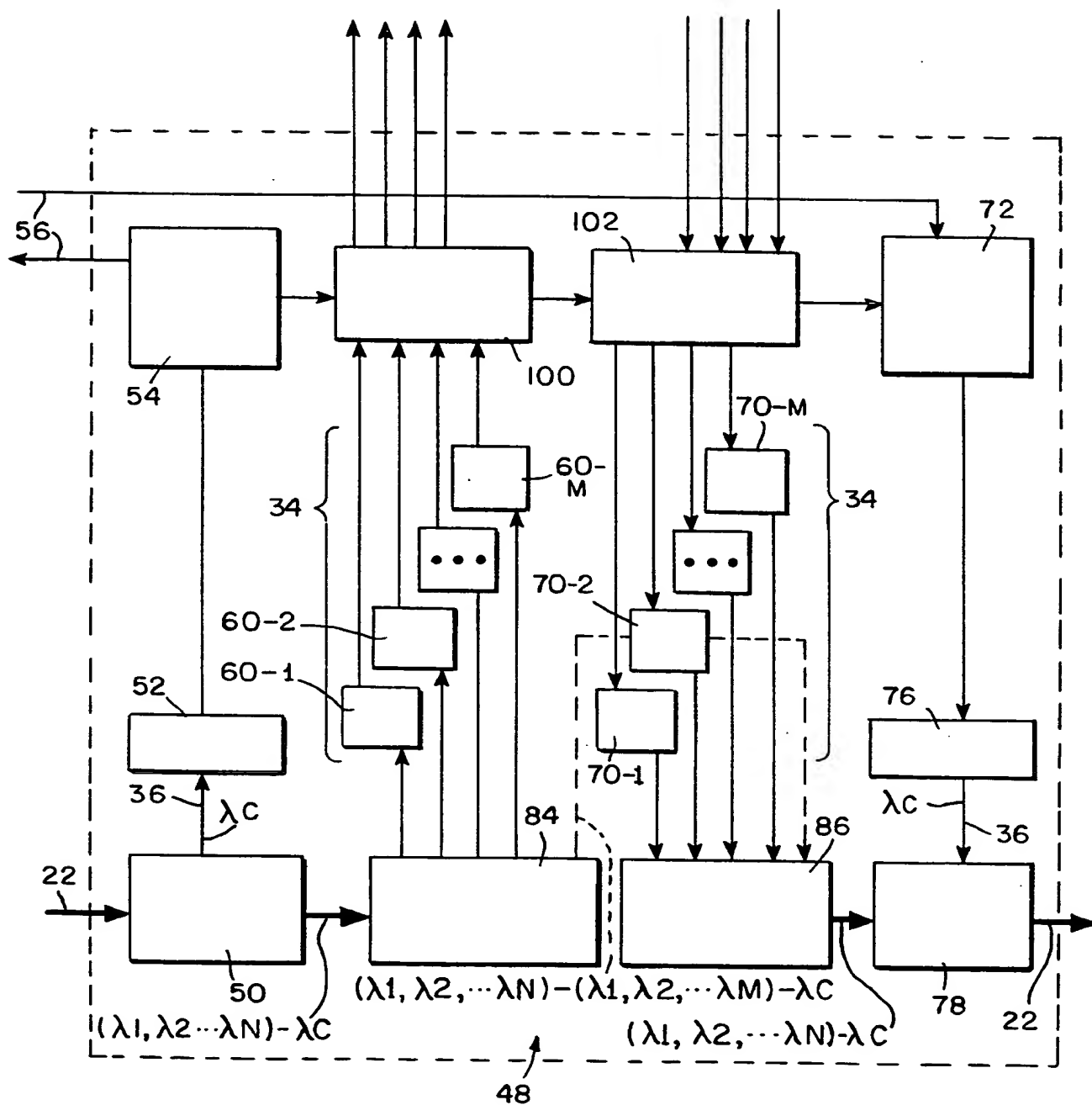


FIG 5

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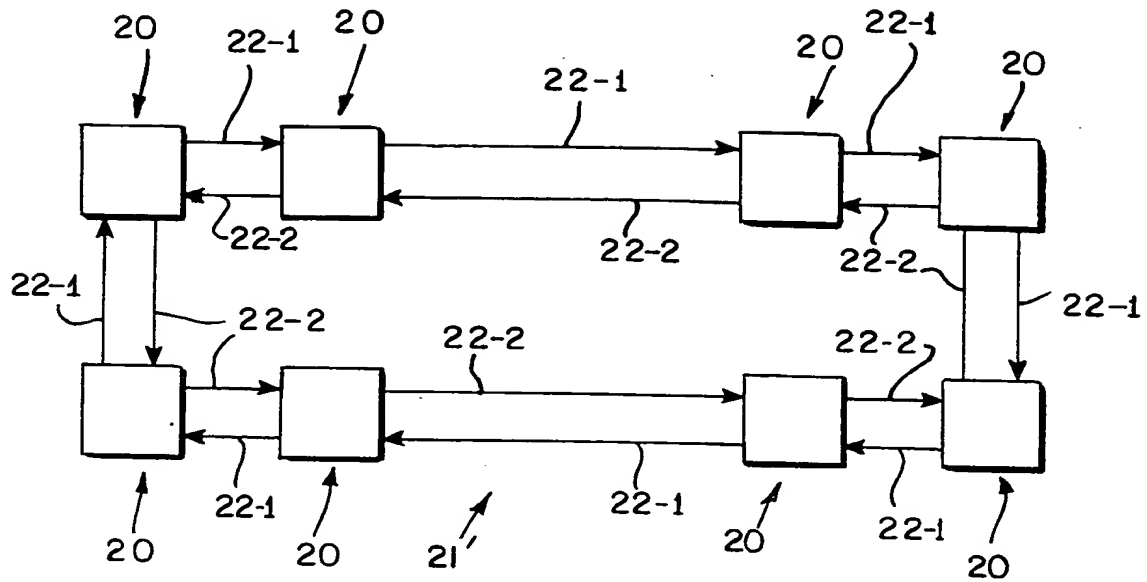


FIG. 6

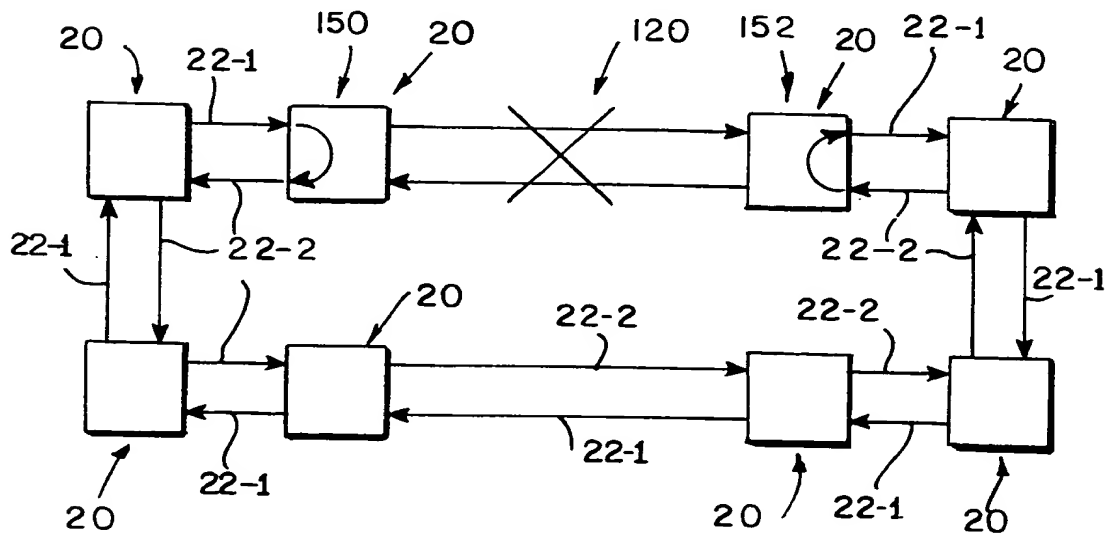


FIG. 7

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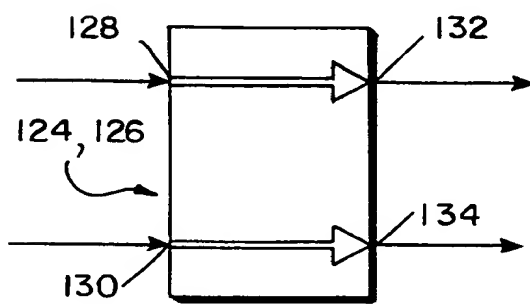
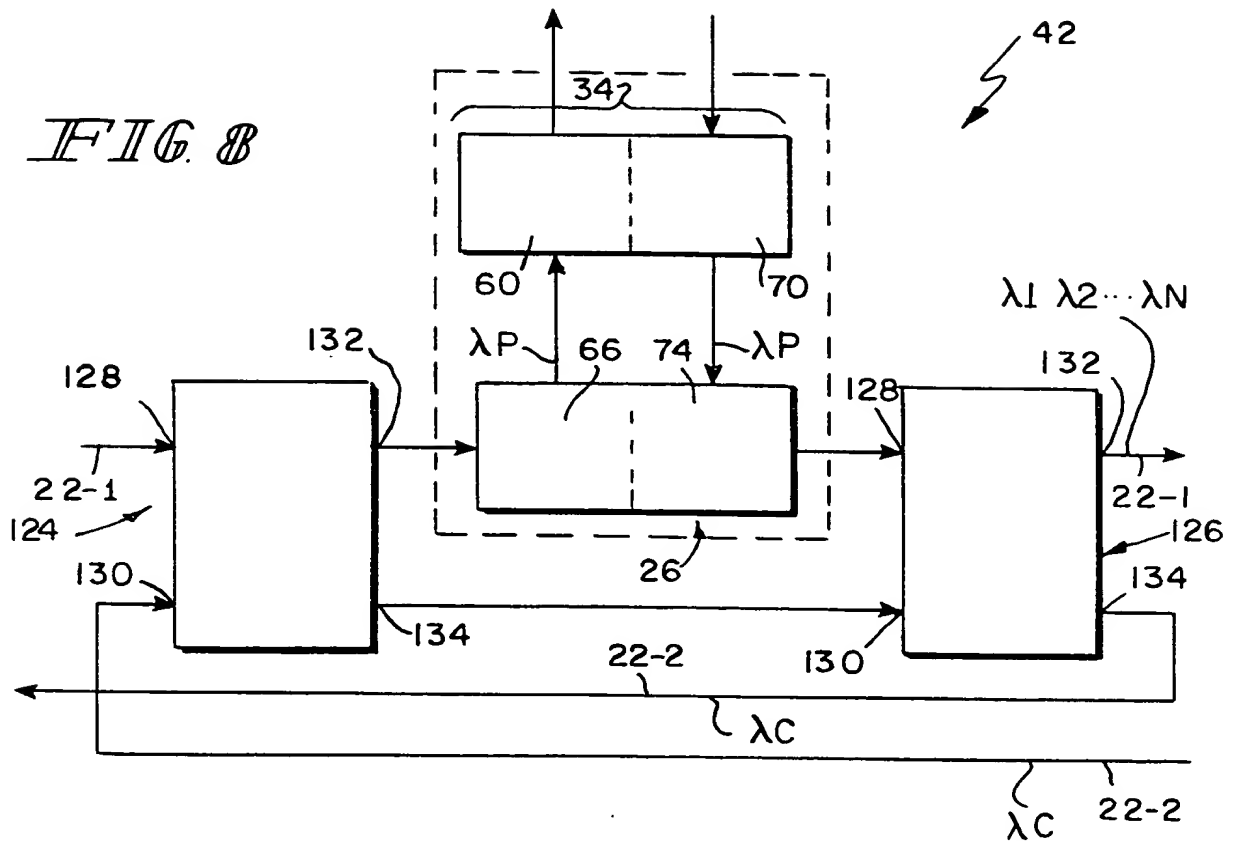


FIG. 9

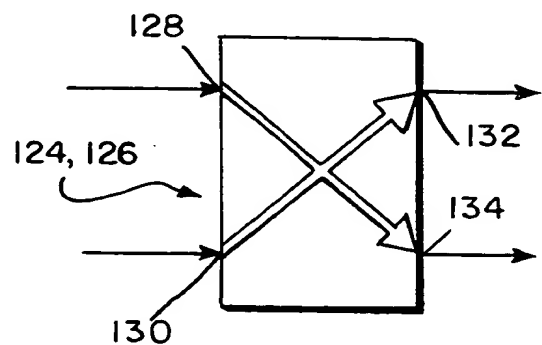
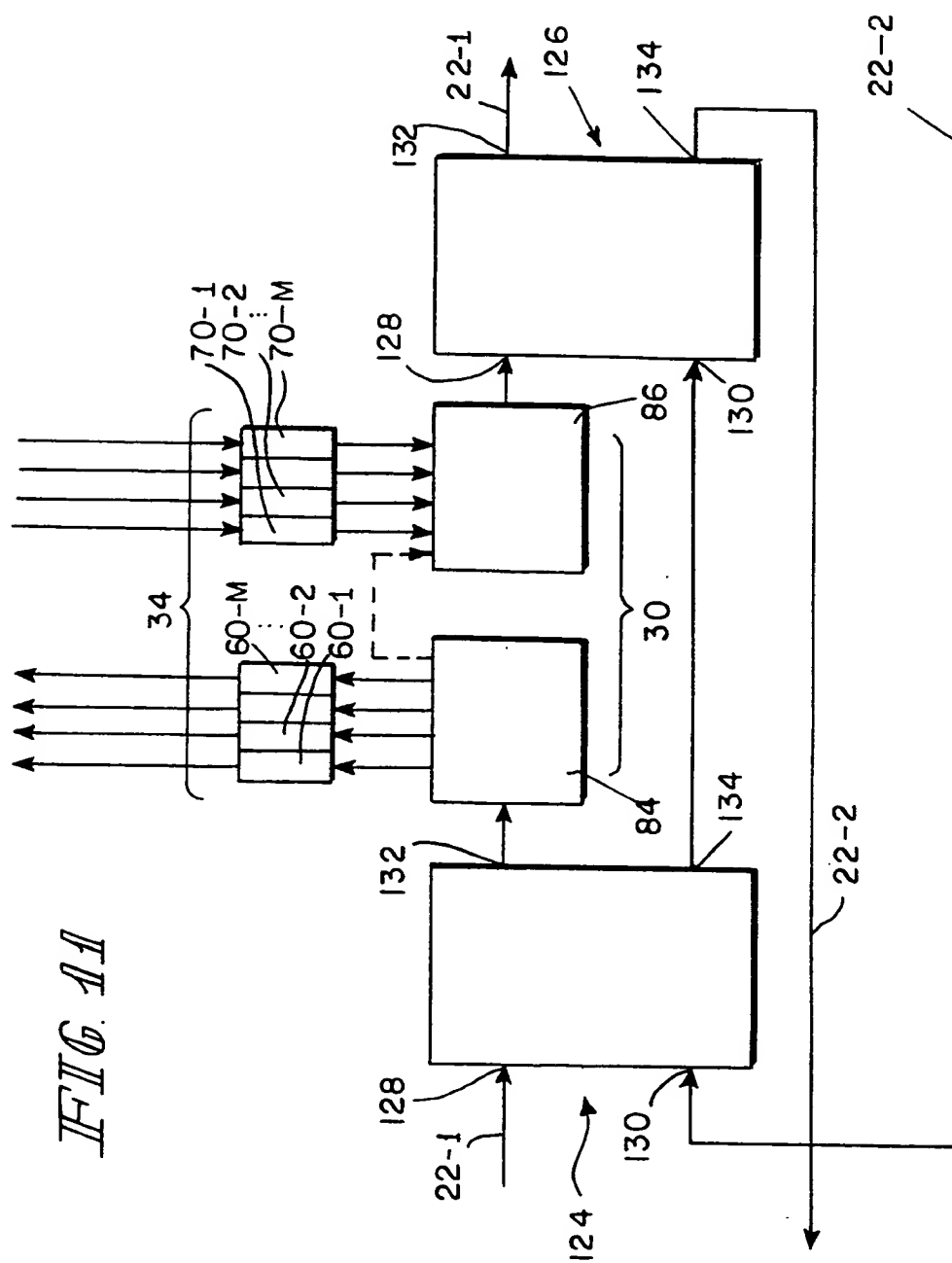


FIG. 10

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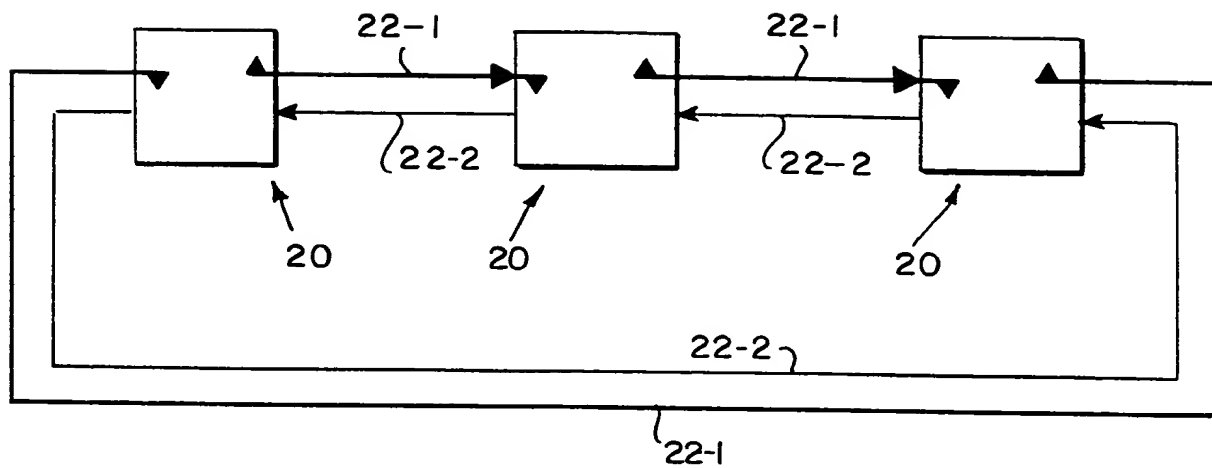


FIG. 12

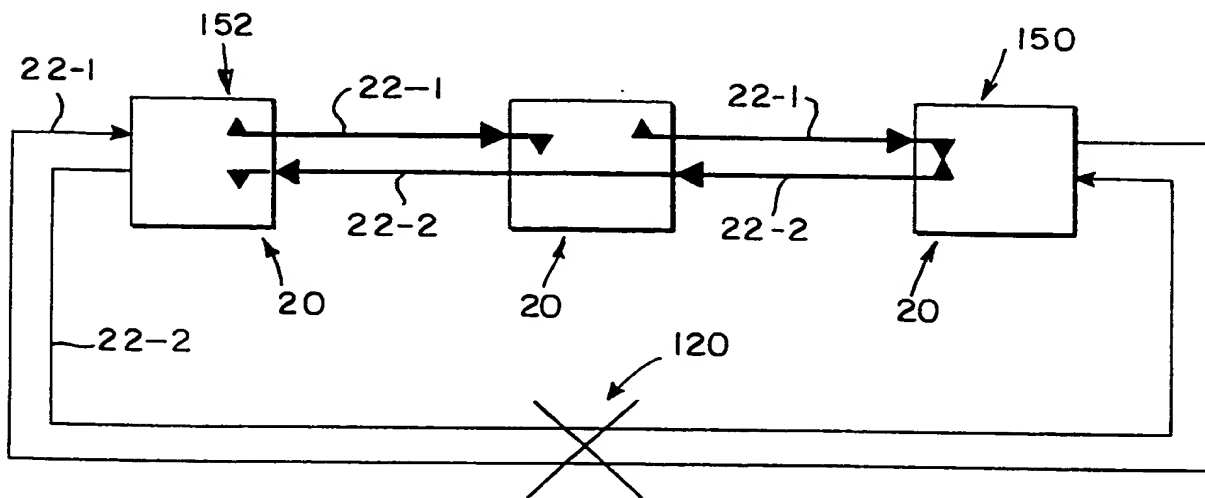


FIG. 13

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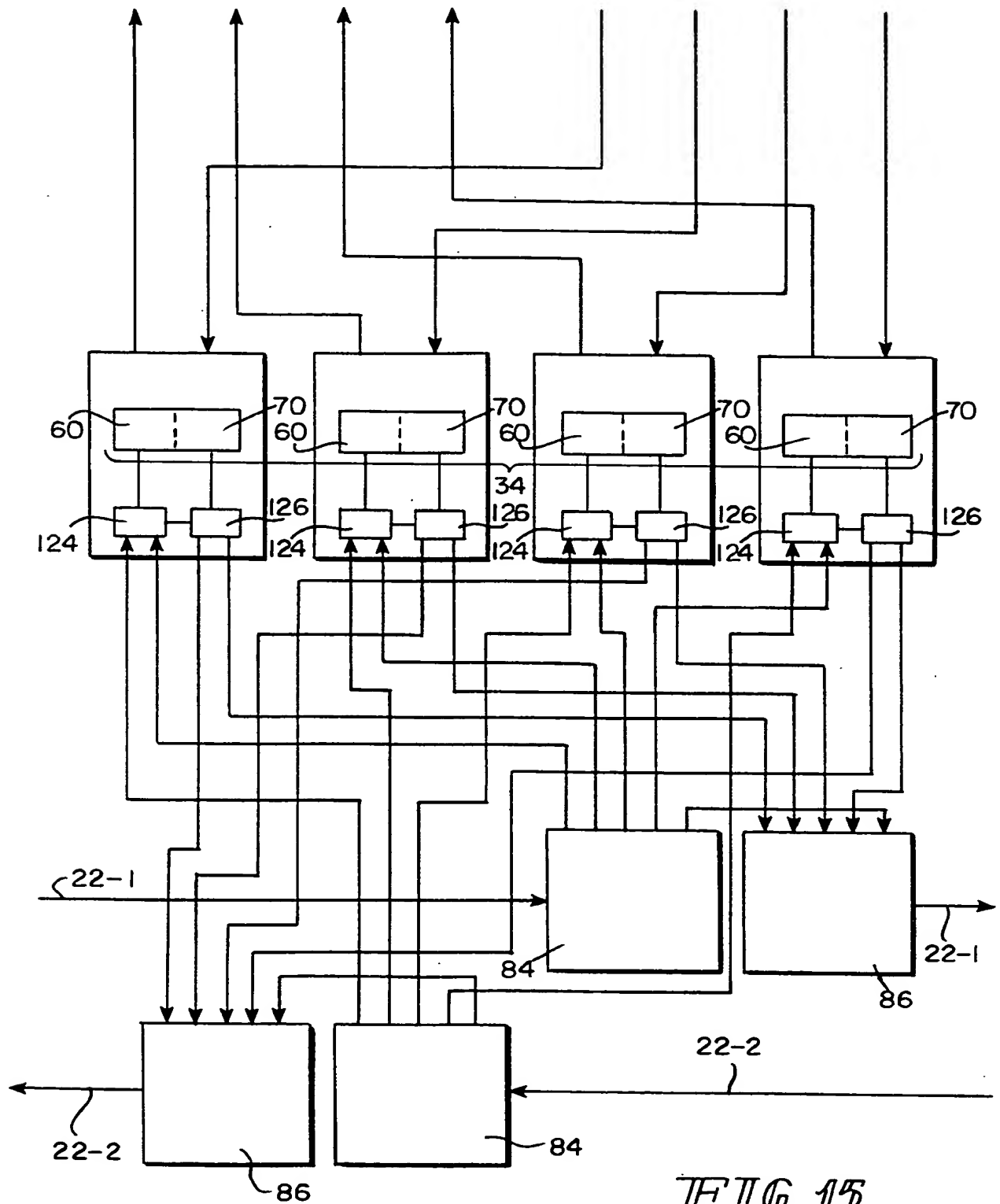


FIG. 15

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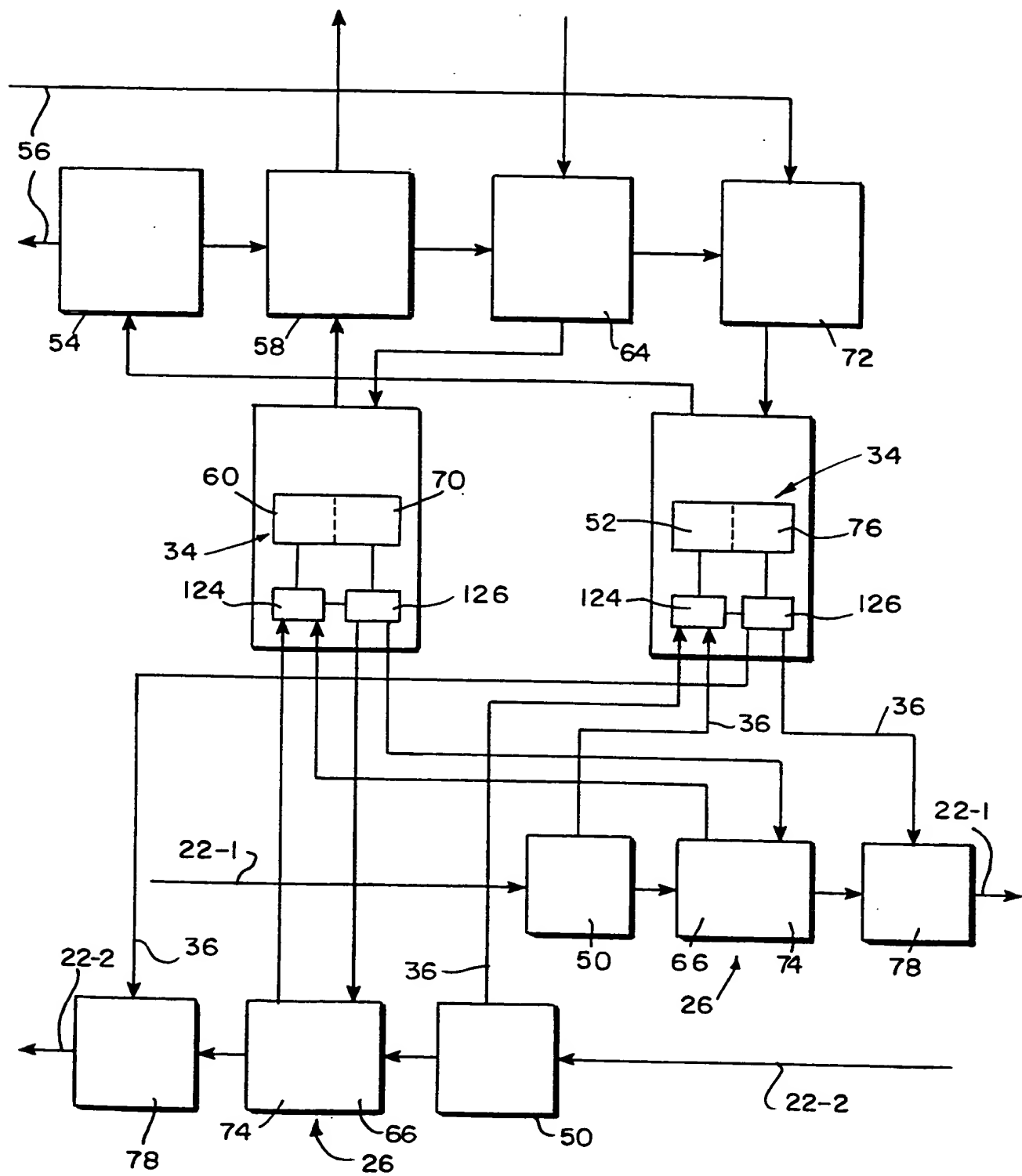
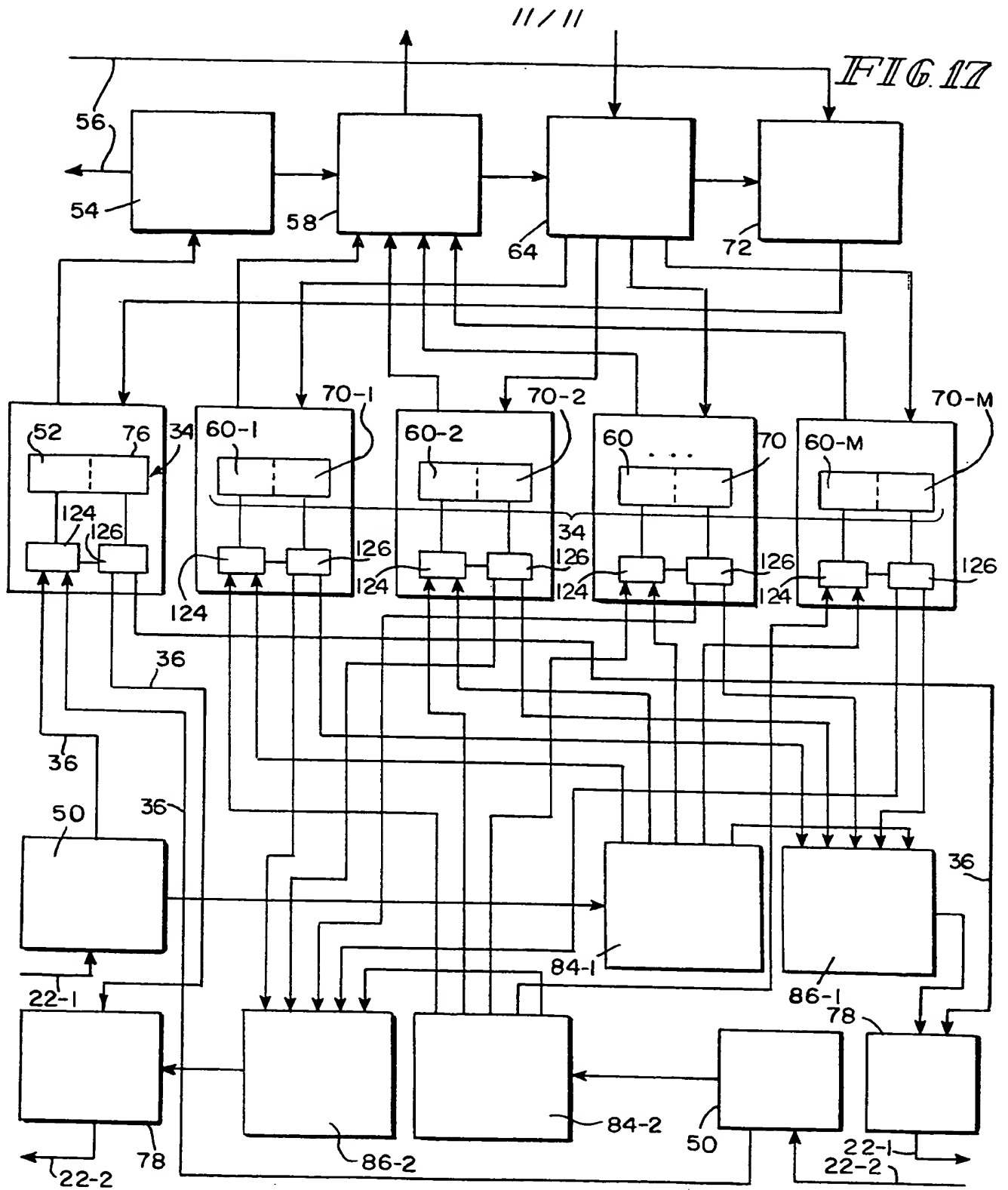


FIG 16



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US99/15897

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(6) : G06F 11/00, H04J 14/00

US CL : 714/4, 385/24

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 714/4, 6, 19, 20, 25, 49; 385/24; 359/119, 127, 117, 121, 166, 118, 136; 370/216, 351, 249, 237, 222;

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

APS, STN

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5,647,035 A (CADEDDU ET AL) 08 July 1997, col. 2, lines 33-67, col. 3, lines 1-67, col. 4, lines 1-34)	1-20
Y	US 5,687,013 A (HENMI ET AL) 11 November 1997, col. 2, lines 42-67, col. 3, lines 1-67, col. 4, lines 1-67)	1-20
A	US 5,528,582 A (BODEEP ET AL) 18 June 1996, entire document	1-20
A	US 5,854,700 A (OTA) 29 December 1998, entire document.	1-20
A	US 5,825,517 A (ANTONIADES ET AL) 20 October 1998, entire document.	1-20

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☐ See patent family annex.

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O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	
P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search 08 SEPTEMBER 1999	Date of mailing of the international search report 22 OCT 1999
Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Box PCT Washington, D.C. 20231 Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230	Authorized officer NADEEM IQBAL Telephone No. (703) 308-5228

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US99/15897

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5,790,288 A (JAGER ET AL) 04 August 1998, entire document.	1-20